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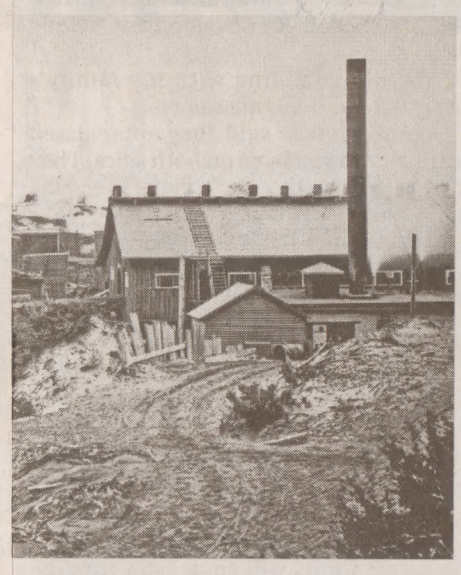

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Buildings were dismantled, salvaged

SEE HISTORY, A3

JOBLESS BENEFITS

Michigan begins demanding unemployment money back

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Rose White *rwhite@mlive.com*

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SEE JOBLESS BENEFITS, A6

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MICHIGAN HISTORY

Michigan's Pompeii: Sand dunes bury deserted lumber town

The deserted town of Singapore was eventually buried by the moving sand dunes, adding to the lore of "Michigan's Pompeii" as seen here in a photo dated 1936 of an original home underneath mounds of sand. *Photos courtesy of the Saugatuck-Douglas History Center*

The Saugatuck-Douglas History Center uncovered the history of the buried town on the anniversary of its dismantlement.

Lindsay Moore *lmoore@mlive.com*

SAUGATUCK — With every wind gust whipping off Lake Michigan, the town of Singapore is further covered in sand, but it's history is far from buried.

September marked 150 years since this bustling lumber town was deserted, but its cultural relevance — and ghost town lore — are perhaps even more famous now.

"It's a fascinating story, and part of what makes it interesting is its enduring quality," said Eric Gollannek, director of the Saugatuck-Douglas History Center.

The once promising community sat near the mouth of the Kalamazoo River, two miles north of Saugatuck and Douglas.

BACK IN TIME

Established in 1837, the lumber town of Singapore had high aspirations of becoming a prominent shoreline city.

By 1869, four sawmills crowded the Kalamazoo River. The town boasted a population of several hundred with 25 to 40 houses, a busy harbor, general store and even its own bank printing "Singapore Bank Notes," according to the history center.

Sawmills crowded the Kalamazoo River waterfront, shown here in 1869, in Singapore. In 1875, the lumber schooner O.R. Johnson sailed to St. Ignace and the Straits of Mackinac with dismantled mill parts, leaving Singapore behind as a ghost town.

By the 1870s, Singapore was a bustling shipping center and lumber port for Great Lakes cities. The lumber town made a name for itself after the Great Chicago Fire in 1871, when the Singapore sawmills supplied much of the wood used to rebuild the city.

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NEWS

ANN ARBOR

Growth plan advances in 8-0 vote as density debate continues

At least one new issue was raised at Tuesday's meeting — whether residents should be able to bring snacks into city hall and "tailgate."

Ryan Stanton *ryanstanton@mlive.com*

The Ann Arbor Planning Commission meets Tuesday for a third draft of the city's proposed comprehensive land-use plan. *Photos by Ryan Stanton, MLive.com*

Residents attend the Ann Arbor Planning Commission's Tuesday meeting.

A third and near-final draft of Ann Arbor's comprehensive land-use plan is headed to City Council.

After nearly four hours of public comments and Planning Commission deliberations into Tuesday, commissioners voted 8-0 to send the plan along without any additional changes. Council is now expected to vote Oct. 20 to start a formal 63-day public review and comment period.

Moving the process along is not an assumption the plan is perfect and that there aren't additional tweaks to be made, planning officials emphasized. But it is an indication they're feeling confident it's in good shape.

Commissioners are expected to review public comments in the coming months and consider possible edits for the city's planning team to make in January. Final plan adoption is tentatively planned for February or March.

Residents for and against the growth plan and the higher-density housing it envisions continued to speak out Tuesday, raising many of the same arguments made at previous meetings, including concerns about altering Ann Arbor's character.

TACKLING SNACKS

At least one new issue was raised, though: whether residents should be able to bring snacks into city hall and "tailgate" before City Council and Planning Commission meetings.

With free pizza, s'mores, lemon crinkle cookies, soda and more set up on a table in the hallway, that was among the topics of debate — dubbed "Tailgategate" — at Tuesday's meeting.

Old Fourth Ward resident Jeff Crockett, a critic of the city's density plan, spoke out, taking issue with a group of mostly pro-density residents under the banner of "Neighbors for More Neighbors" gathering ahead of the meeting and sharing snacks like they've done at previous meetings.

"I'm very disturbed about the provision of food," Crockett told commissioners, noting he also sent them an email about it and suggested the city attorney should investigate the legality of it.

"For you to accept this food is a problem," he said, saying the optics of it are terrible. "What would happen if two or three groups came and filled this with food? How would you deal with that? Would you say yes to one group and no to another?"

Dicken neighborhood resident Adam Jaskiewicz used part of his public speaking time to thank fellow residents for bringing snacks. "It really builds community when we can come together and share food," he said. "Rather than optics of coziness, I think it creates an atmosphere of coziness, and isn't that what neighbors are all about?"

Commissioner Julie Weatherbee took the side of residents who enjoyed the food.

"I really appreciate people bringing food and if anyone wants to bring food, we could have just buffets here — I think that would be great," she said.

ENVISIONING THE FUTURE

Food aside, Jaskiewicz said he's glad the city's growth plan is finally approaching the home stretch after a yearslong, robust civic process with extensive public input.

"While I am sure none of us are seeing absolutely everything we want to see in this newest draft, I think it is to be expected when there are so many different opinions in the room," he said.

The Planning Commission has done an admirable job distilling City Council's priorities, its own opinions and those of the community into a vision for Ann Arbor's growth over the next 25 years, Jaskiewicz said.

"It's great to see a plan that supports abundant housing, strives to repair some of the problems with mid-20th-century suburban development patterns, eliminates exclusionary single-family zoning and aims to create a vision for an equitable, sustainable, affordable and dynamic Ann Arbor for all," he said.

The plan envisions allowing up to three-story, three-unit condo and apartment buildings to replace single-family homes in neighborhoods, and more mid-rise and high-rise development along key corridors throughout the city.

Cranbrook Road resident Karen Wight was among the residents concerned she's going to have to live in an area where mixed-use, higher-density development will be allowed.

"You are gambling with my family's future," she told commissioners.

Commissioners said they appreciated hearing from residents on both sides. They acknowledged they can't make everyone happy and they're trying their best to make good decisions.

"We are never going to have 100% consensus and that's not the goal here, and it does not mean that we're not listening," Commissioner Sara Hammerschmidt said.

"The intent of the plan is to be a guide for development moving forward," she said. "After the months of public comment on this plan, I think it's clear we're never going to have full agreement on what that development should look like."

Commissioners noted details like building height limits will come later through zoning changes as the plan is gradually implemented starting in 2026.

STILL IN PROGRESS

Chair Donnell Wyche said the plan is not a done deal. The city still hasn't even finished implementing its 2009 land-use plan, he said, suggesting it will take a while to implement the new one and it will come up for review and possible changes every five years.

It's true some residents will be disappointed in the plan and he's among them, he said, expressing concerns his neighborhood, the Lansdowne subdivision, won't see the type of greater housing density he wants because council won't allow it.

"I want more housing in my neighborhood and I was told no," he said.

Other commissioners tried to assuage fears about greater housing density in neighborhoods.

Weatherbee said she lives along the South Main Street corridor and doesn't fear her life will be upended by it. She already has seen increasing density in her neighborhood and it doesn't affect her at all — she just has more neighbors and there are more people out walking dogs, she said.

If her neighbors move and their house is replaced with an apartment building, it's not a problem, she said.

RESPONDING TO CRITICS

Commissioners took offense to some critics, including suggestions they stand to profit from the changes.

"I'm a little bit shocked by some of the personal vitriol that has been flung at members of the Planning Commission," Commissioner Richard Norton said. "Nobody up here is a tool of the mayor. Nobody is here as a tool of the growth machine. We're all up here because we care about this city, too, and we're trying to do our best."

Some residents raised concerns about the historically Black neighborhood north of downtown becoming a mixed-use, higher-density transition zone and the potential for homes there to be razed, suggesting it should be made a historic district.

Norton said he agrees historic districts bring some value to the community and noted he lives in the Old West Side.

"I'm also very mindful that my historic district is becoming an incredibly expensive place to live," he said. "In fact, the home value, we couldn't afford to buy the house we're in now if we tried to buy it now because home values are going up so much."

Ann Arbor has never been cheap, but housing prices have skyrocketed in the past decade, said Lisa Disch, council's liaison to the commission.

"You can feel it," she said. "You can see it in who's moving in and who's not moving in."

What she has heard from everyone speaking out is they care about housing affordability, she said.

"None of us has a crystal ball," she said. "So, we do not know how all of these reforms are going to affect this city."

The best the city can do is look at evidence and studies, she said, expressing confidence more housing supply can help curb housing prices, contrary to what critics may believe, and the city could get more affordably priced "missing middle" housing over time as there's more housing and the housing stock ages.

The biggest source of lower-income affordable housing is achieved through low-income tax credits, she said, which is the route the city is going by leveraging its affordable housing millage.

ASK THE ADVOCATE

Dear readers, your true colors stood out amid our glitch

When our online contest launched with technical issues, you displayed your quality and humanity.

Bernie Eng *beng1@mlive.com*

Sometimes, an adventure doesn't go as planned, but the resulting consequence ends up in the win column anyway.

That happened to me last weekend.

The "Find Bernie" reader contest that I told you about started with, shall we say, a few glitches.

Dozens of you emailed or called about it on Sunday and Monday. With the potential of 500 bucks on the line, that situation could have turned ugly. But it didn't. Instead, there wasn't even one rude email or call in the bunch.

That shouldn't surprise me, given the great conversations I've had with some of you over the past few months, but it's a solid testament to the quality and humanity of our readers.

Thank you very much.

All seems well with the contest now, so keep finding my picture, or avatar, in the online newspaper every day, clicking on it and filling out the form for your chance to win.

CONTEST REVISITED

If you're wondering what I'm talking about, here's the scoop: Play the Find Bernie game for a chance to win $500 each week. The online newspaper giveaway runs every day through Nov. 1.

Just find the ad with my picture in your online edition, click it and fill out the form that appears. Do that every day to be eligible for the contest.

The idea here is to get you more familiar with your online newspaper. We put my picture in a different place each day to give you a chance to explore.

If you are a print-only subscriber, there's no better time to activate your online newspaper account and take part in the contest. It's easy to do at myaccount.mlive.com by clicking on Activate Your Account.

Go to the same place if you want to add friends or family — up to four — to your account so they have their own subscription.

If you get stuck you can always call or email me at 989-751-2254 or comments@mlive.com, and we'll get you set up. The cost is already included in your print subscription.

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The other, day I heard someone say they enjoy their Sunday-only online newspaper.

To clarify, if you get the online newspaper, you can read it all seven days at no extra charge — even if you are a Sunday-only print subscriber.

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Winter is almost here again. As MLive's chief meteorologist, Mark Torregrossa keeps readers abreast of any weather news. Now that you have a direct feed of MLive stories flowing into your online newspaper, he'll keep you up to date, too. Click on the MLive.com tab at the top, then on the Latest or Local tabs to follow Mark's forecasts as days get chilly.

It's also almost Halloween, so watch for our subscriber-exclusive, online-only special section all about the haunted holiday. It publishes Oct. 26, and you can find it under the Specials tab in the online newspaper. Stories include Halloween history, legends and customs; scariest places to travel; costumes, safety and recipes; scary movies, music and books; and ranking candy from worst to best.

Happy Halloween!

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FROM THE COVER

MICHIGAN HISTORY

Michigan's Pompeii: Sand dunes bury deserted lumber town

Continues from A1

or moved in whole down the Kalamazoo River, either floating or dragged along the ice, to nearby Saugatuck, Gollannek said.

"By the end of the 1800s, people are already looking back with this kind of nostalgic, romantic image of this lost city. This ghost town of Singapore (becomes) Michigan's Pompeii," Gollannek said.

LEGENDARY

Here's where the fact and fiction start to intermingle.

Gollannek noted that unlike the ancient Roman city of Pompeii, there was no danger of Singapore residents being buried alive.

The sand dunes moving in came at a much slower clip than the volcanic ash and pumice that buried Pompeii.

Also significant to note, the people of Singapore were actively moving out. Staying along sand dunes without an economic anchor became unsustainable and unattractive, Gollannek said.

Singapore residents packed up their valuables, saved what they could of the infrastructure and moved on.

"Think of cities in the region today that we think of as Rust Belt cities that sort of rise and fall based on what's happening in the economy of the region," Gollannek said "That's true in the 19th century as well."

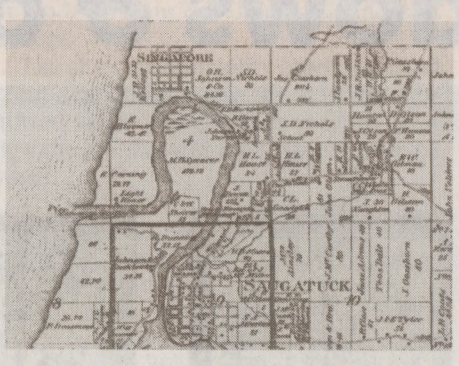
A SENSE OF PLACE

While Singapore has long been called a ghost town for its vacancy, Gollannek can't speak to any paranormal activity there. He does feel a "strong kind of mythical sense of the place" though.

"The unknown and the nature of the dunes and the landscape in constant transformation (adds) a certain element of it's destabilized, it's mysterious," he said. "It lends itself to this kind of spooky sensibility. This great unknown."

Singapore's folklore has outlived its actual tenure.

The town of Singapore disbanded when its bustling lumber mill was dismantled and shipped to the Upper Peninsula. Pictured here are wooden pilings remaining in the Kalamazoo River in this undated photo. *Photo courtesy of the Saugatuck-Douglas History Center*



An 1873 map of Saugatuck Township shows Singapore at the northernmost bend of the Kalamazoo River.

The Bank of Singapore issued currency notes for use in the area around the lumber mill in 1838. *Wikipedia*

LIVING ON

The 150th anniversary inspired the history center and the Star of Saugatuck to introduce a new history cruise, offering views of the site of Singapore from the Kalamazoo River.

"It's still living in the imagination of people around the region," Gollannek said. "It's a great story. History has these echoes across generations."

The cruise sold out quickly, prompting a second time slot to open.

That time slot also sold out, prompting organizers to set up a waitlist.

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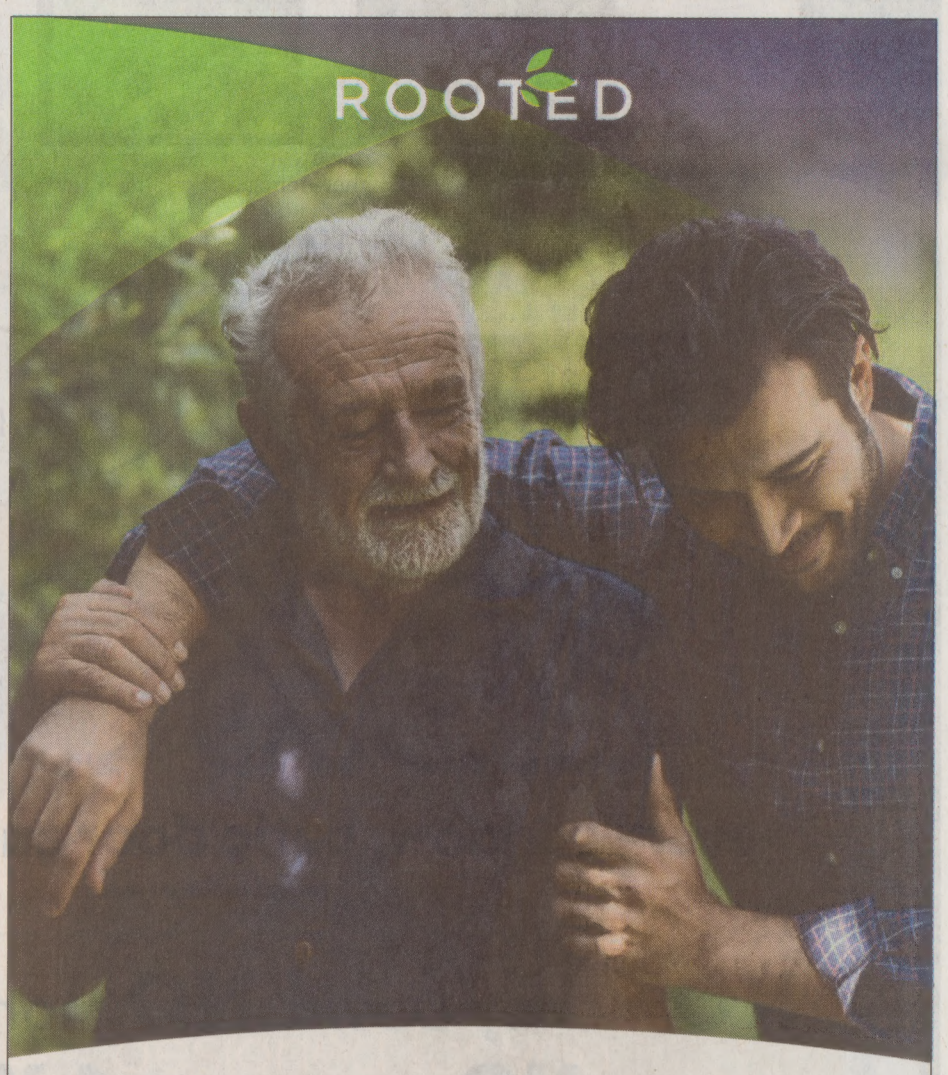

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NEWS

ANN ARBOR

City secures $10.8M federal grant for renewable energy project

"It is truly miraculous that this grant ultimately came through," says Councilmember Lisa Disch, D-1st Ward.

Ryan Stanton *ryanstanton@mlive.com*

Ann Arbor has secured a major federal grant for a renewable energy project city officials were worried may be at risk under the Trump administration.

"It is truly miraculous that this grant ultimately came through because we know of so many things that are not," said Councilmember Lisa Disch, D-1st Ward.

City Council voted unanimously and enthusiastically Monday to accept nearly $10.8 million from the U.S. Department of Energy to bring a large-scale geothermal network to the Bryant neighborhood in southeast Ann Arbor.

"I am incredibly excited to see this project moving forward," said Mayor Pro Tem Travis Radina, D-3rd Ward.

"Community geothermal in the Bryant neighborhood has the opportunity to serve not just as a giant step forward in our communitywide carbon-neutrality efforts, but also it can serve as a demonstration project for other projects throughout Ann Arbor and other communities throughout Michigan."

Missy Stults, the city's sustainability director, joined in celebrating the grant award, calling it momentous. Her office does a lot of grant work, but this is the one that made her jump up and down and get a little giddy, she said.

Working with experts and stakeholders, the city has come up with a geothermal system design capable of meeting the heating and cooling needs of residents of the socioeconomically diverse neighborhood, tapping into the earth's renewable energy and shifting away from burning fossil fuels.

When stacked with energy efficiency and other renewable energy work being done, the system will be capable of reducing energy usage and associated costs for Bryant residents by over 70%, the city estimates.

Solar panels line the Bryant Community Center's roof. *Photos by Ryan Stanton, MLive.com*

Ann Arbor's Bryant neighborhood will receive a grant for a large-scale geothermal network.

The city was initially awarded $10 million for the initiative at the tail end of the Biden administration, but city officials said earlier this year the funding may be at risk under Trump and months went by with no updates from the U.S. Department of Energy.

The city's sustainability office restarted grant negotiations with the feds and submitted updated paperwork recently, and now the grant award is unexpectedly even larger.

The updates were accepted by the U.S. Department of Energy and a final grant agreement was shared with the city in late September, Stults said.

The city is required to provide at least a 50% match. Given the parameters, the city submitted a package totaling an estimated $22.1 million for a well field, pump house and installation of geothermal in over 100 households, Stults said.

That means the city will need to secure additional capital to cover the remaining project costs, which is the first task in the city's proposed work plan, she said.

The project is rooted in equity, serving one of Ann Arbor's most diverse and affordable neighborhoods, Radina said. In addition to helping reduce energy bills and greenhouse gas emissions, it reduces indoor air pollution by shifting away from gas appliances, which should improve resident health, he said.

The city is partnering on the Bryant project with the nonprofit Community Action Network.

Stults expressed gratitude to City Council for trusting in the project, saying what was a twinkle in their eyes four years ago is coming to fruition and Bryant is going to be the first existing neighborhood in the U.S. to achieve carbon-neutrality.

Councilmember Ayesha Ghazi Edwin, D-3rd Ward, said it's incredible and it's making it possible for people irrespective of income to participate in the fight against climate change.

"And it takes an enormous amount of courage to pioneer a new energy technology, and the Bryant neighborhood is doing that for this city," Disch said, giving credit to project liaisons who've gone door to door, getting residents to embrace it.

"It's amazing, people are getting on board," Disch said. "This is not easy. And I love it that we got this money, because it will make so many dreams come true."

The Bryant geothermal system is expected to become an asset of the new sustainable energy utility the city is launching.

Mayor Christopher Taylor credited city voters for supporting the city's climate action millage and sustainable energy utility.

"Without those commitments from our community as a whole, we would not be in a position to accomplish something that, when the switch is thrown, should be front-page news everywhere," he said of decarbonizing the Bryant neighborhood.

He's also excited about the federal grant, saying it puts the city on a straight road to accomplish its goals for the neighborhood.

"With this help, we're going to be able to do great things for our residents and serve as an exemplar of government that's doing good work for its community," he said.

Council voted to approve a $1.8 million contract with IMEG Consultants Corp., plus a $182,163 contingency budget, for continued work on professional engineering, design and advisory services for the geothermal project. Council also approved putting $150,000 toward a community engagement process for it to be led by the Community Action Network and $560,000 for workforce development efforts through the United Association Local 190, a plumbers and pipefitters union, and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 252.

As the city shifts to technology like geothermal to replace gas, it's important to support workers who've been doing the work to heat the community for decades and transition their skills, said Councilmember Jen Eyer, D-4th Ward.

"And so this part of it is really important in that sense, making sure that we have what we call a just transition," she said, "so that we're not leaving the workers that we have relied on for so many years behind, but making sure that we are helping bring them along and train them for future jobs."

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FROM THE COVER

JOBLESS BENEFITS

Michigan begins demanding unemployment money back

Continues from A1

"Some folks probably are, unfortunately, going to be making payments voluntarily just because they don't want anything worse to happen," said Tony Paris, an attorney from the Sugar Law Center in Detroit.

For Doubblestien, it's since been a rollercoaster of mixed messages.

In March 2020, she got a letter saying her claim had been flagged for "misrepresentation," but the state determined at the time she was "not overpaid, and restitution is no longer required."

But about a year later, the state unemployment agency asked for the money back because it had been deemed an overpayment, meaning Doubblestien got benefits but the state later determined she didn't qualify.

Doubblestien said then she got back-to-back letters, one saying she was eligible for benefits and the other saying she wasn't. At the time, Doubblestien said she tried contacting the agency to get clarity but didn't hear back — until an unexpected bill landed in her mailbox last month.

"I submitted everything that I was supposed to. I was reporting all of my income. I did everything that they asked of me," she said.

A sheet outlines the core beliefs of the Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency in a Grand Rapids office. The agency told about 350,000 people last month they must repay their benefits, most of them received during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. It's seeking to recover $2.7 billion from workers who it says were overpaid benefits, meaning they got money when they weren't supposed to. *MLive.com files*

REPAYMENT DEMANDS

Why is Michigan demanding benefits back?

It all ties back to unemployment issues that unfolded during the pandemic, when the state agency was flooded with claims and trying to navigate new rules over who qualified for benefits.

During that time, Michigan mistakenly overpaid billions in unemployment when it allowed some workers to claim benefits for reasons that were not approved by the federal government. It then retroactively found workers ineligible for aid and tried to reclaim the money.

Some of those overpayments were waived.

But a lawsuit, filed in 2022, accused the state of collecting on overpayments it mistakenly issued and demanding money back despite pending appeals. Under the law, the state is required to waive any overpayments caused by the agency error. But some people were still told to repay thousands of dollars, or face garnishment, without getting a fair hearing.

"When it comes to, like, who's going to bear the weight of the mistake that happened at the end of the day, it shouldn't be the worker, and the law provides that it shouldn't be the worker," said Jacob Fallman, unemployment policy coordinator at the Sugar Law Center.

The case was settled for $55 million in April 2024 under an agreement that also requires the state to make changes on how it reclaims overpaid benefits, ensuring that workers are given due process before collections can start.

And now, the jobless agency has been allowed to turn the collections machine on again for any overpaid benefit between March 2020 and July 2025.

Benefits are deemed an overpayment if a worker made a mistake on their paperwork, they were unable to work or they gave false information when filing a claim. An FAQ document on the state's website says workers are liable to pay back money they weren't supposed to receive unless they get a waiver.

Those facing collections should have been previously told they were overpaid.

"We understand the impact these collections will have on household budgets," Palmer said.

FRUSTRATED WORKERS

But lawyers are worried that some workers who were eligible for benefits or previously received waivers may have gotten caught in the crosshairs.

"There are 350,000 people that might be collected against," Fallman said. "Some percentage of those have agency error waivers. How do we get someone with decision-making power to recognize that those errors happen and grant people the relief that they're entitled to?"

A Sugar Law Center client recently got a letter saying he owes the state $13,000, according to Paris, even after successfully appealing his case with an administrative law judge in November 2022.

Paris said his client was "clearly eligible for benefits," but there seems to be a mismatch between what judges have ordered on paper and how the state's computer system flags overpayments.

"It's most frustrating for folks who we think have clear orders that say they don't owe," Paris said.

It's unclear, at this point however, how many people are in that position.

Paris believes the rollout of collections is straining MiDAS, the state's aging computer system that has a long history of problems. A decade ago, it falsely accused 40,000 workers of fraud, garnishing wages and seizing tax refunds, which led to a $20 million settlement.

MiDAS is set to be replaced in 2026.

In addition to that, Fallman said some people might be facing collections for overpayments that were the agency's mistake, but he's worried the appeals process isn't working.

"I think the agency would embrace the reality that the pandemic was hard and some mistakes happened," he said. "But right now, even if you think there was a mistake, even if you have glaring evidence of a mistake, there is no way for you to submit an appeal."

APPEALS AND WAIVERS

Workers are allowed to challenge the state's determination on overpayments, but protests must be filed within 30 days. For those now facing collections, those decisions might have been handed down years ago. A determination must be final before collections can begin.

Late appeals on the state's decision are allowed, though, with a written explanation.

Michigan is also allowing the 350,000 workers to request financial hardship waivers, which would erase any repayments. But for Doubblestien, asking for one of those waivers seems like an admission of guilt.

"They're telling everyone to go fill out this hardship waiver," she said. "But in my head, if you fill that out, that means that you're admitting that you owe this debt."

The September letter didn't explain why Doubblestien landed in the overpayment category, saying it's based on final "(re) determinations or appellate decisions."

Now faced with paying back $16,067 that she used to stay afloat during the pandemic, Doubblestien ultimately decided to request a hardship waiver.

"The thought of owing my state for the rest of my life makes me sick," she said.

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NEWS

WASHTENAW COUNTY

Data center surge prompts skeptical county officials to craft guidance for communities

The county is developing resources to help navigate proposed computing facilities that officials say could derail carbon neutrality goals.

Jennifer Eberbach *jeberbach@mlive.com*

There are three data center projects aimed at powering AI and computing proposed in Washtenaw County. More are anticipated.

In response, county officials are collecting information and guidance they hope will help local governments navigate the growing industry.

County officials lack the authority to approve or deny data centers. However, they expressed concern about environmental impacts, usage of water and electricity and possible disruptions to the county's Resilient Washtenaw Plan that seeks carbon neutrality in the county by 2025.

"The best role we can play is to provide information that can help townships, villages and cities make the best possible decisions with their land-use rules," Beth Gibbons, who directs the Washtenaw County Resiliency Office, reported to the county board Oct. 1.

In addition to the three data center projects proposed in the county, there are an estimated seven additional data centers under negotiation, which have not yet been publicly proposed, Gibbons said.

"There are more data centers under negotiation than there will be developed," she said. "There is a common practice that the data centers will go in and try to see where they can develop in multiple places with no intention of developing all of them."

County officials had approved a resolution Sept. 17 directing county staff to develop outreach materials for local governments, including recommendations of what local governments should require from developers in terms of water and energy use, environmental impacts and noise.

In the resolution, county officials also urge local governments to require data center developers use renewable energy and commit to not using "water-wasteful" evaporative cooling techniques, among other recommendations.

This week, the county expects to issue pamphlets on the plans and status of data centers in the county, as well as the county's position on the projects.

Gibbons said they will also create a webpage that can be updated as new proposals for data centers in the county come forward.

A "toolkit" to help local townships, villages, and cities be prepared for data center proposals is also in the works, Gibbons reported to the county board.

The county will work with a university student with the University of Michigan's Center for EmPowering Communities to develop the municipal planning toolkit with recommendations to local governments, with the goal of completing it by Nov. 1.

The toolkit "will start to provide municipalities with the knowledge and kinds of resources that they need in order to set up zoning codes or ordinances that will prepare them to receive data centers," Gibbons said. "So that when data centers show up, they have the laws on the books that they need to have in order to manage them."

Without regulatory authority over data centers, some county offices can see what data centers are up to, she added. Those include building inspections, the county Office of Community and Economic Development, the county health department, and county offices for racial equity and resiliency.

Data centers are a "rapidly growing sector" being driven by cloud computing, AI and video conferencing, Gibbons said.

"Like most technologies, getting information about data centers is challenging because there is a lot of work that happens in the blind, because this is considered restricted information because of the new tech," she said.

While her exploration of data centers and potential community impacts continues, she drew a few general conclusions.

"Like most technologies, getting information about data centers is challenging because there is a lot of work that happens in the blind, because this is considered restricted information because of the new tech."

Beth Gibbons, director of the Washtenaw County Resiliency Office

"There is no way around it, data centers have a massive impact on our environment," she said.

She pointed to electricity consumption as an impact of concern, comparing an average of about 2 megawatt hours of electricity use to the amount of electricity needed to power a small town.

She also said the amount of energy data centers consume in the U.S. is expected to rise from about 4% to up to 12% by 2028, which is comparable to all residential housing in the country.

"A couple data centers in Washtenaw County and there is no way we're getting to be carbon neutral by 2035," Gibbons said. "It's just a nonstarter. There is not an ability of a data center to put enough renewable energy on its site to actually generate renewable energy."

Gibbons also said her office would be meeting with county environmental health officials to explore options for regulations around water discharge.

Depending on what type of system a data center uses to cool equipment, water use can be "extreme," Gibbons said.

"What is challenging is that less than 30% of the data centers that we are seeing in the U.S. right now are actually disclosing what their water rate is, so this is where it's really difficult to get into that information," she said.

She also pointed out that data centers either use more energy or more water, resulting in "tradeoffs."

"Are you using more energy? Is it using more water? But one way or another ... its robbing Peter to pay Paul," she said.

Commissioner Jason Maciejewski, D-Dexter Township, requested the county also put together an FAQ resource for the public.

The three proposed data center projects in the county are at different stages.

In Saline Township, township officials are looking to settle a lawsuit recently filed by Related Digital, a data center development firm working for an unidentified tech giant and landowners. The firm and landowners filed suit after the township board voted to deny rezoning about 575 acres off West Michigan Avenue, alleging the township is "exclusionary" and in violation of state law because there is currently no land zoned for industrial uses in the township.

In Augusta Township, a group of citizens claims they collected enough signatures on a ballot petition to let township voters decide whether to rezone about 522 acres of land just outside Milan for a computer data center proposed by development firm Thor Equities. Township officials had approved the rezoning.

In Ypsilanti Township, the University of Michigan and Los Alamos National Laboratory are partnering on a data center campus to bring high-performance computing for classified and nonclassified research in AI, energy, national security, and other sciences. Two sites in the township are under consideration. In that case, the university does not need approval from the township, as it is exempt from local zoning regulations as a nonprofit public university.

Commissioner Justin Hodge, D-Ypsilanti Township, who represents Augusta and Ypsilanti townships, said most questions he gets from his constituents are about the data centers.

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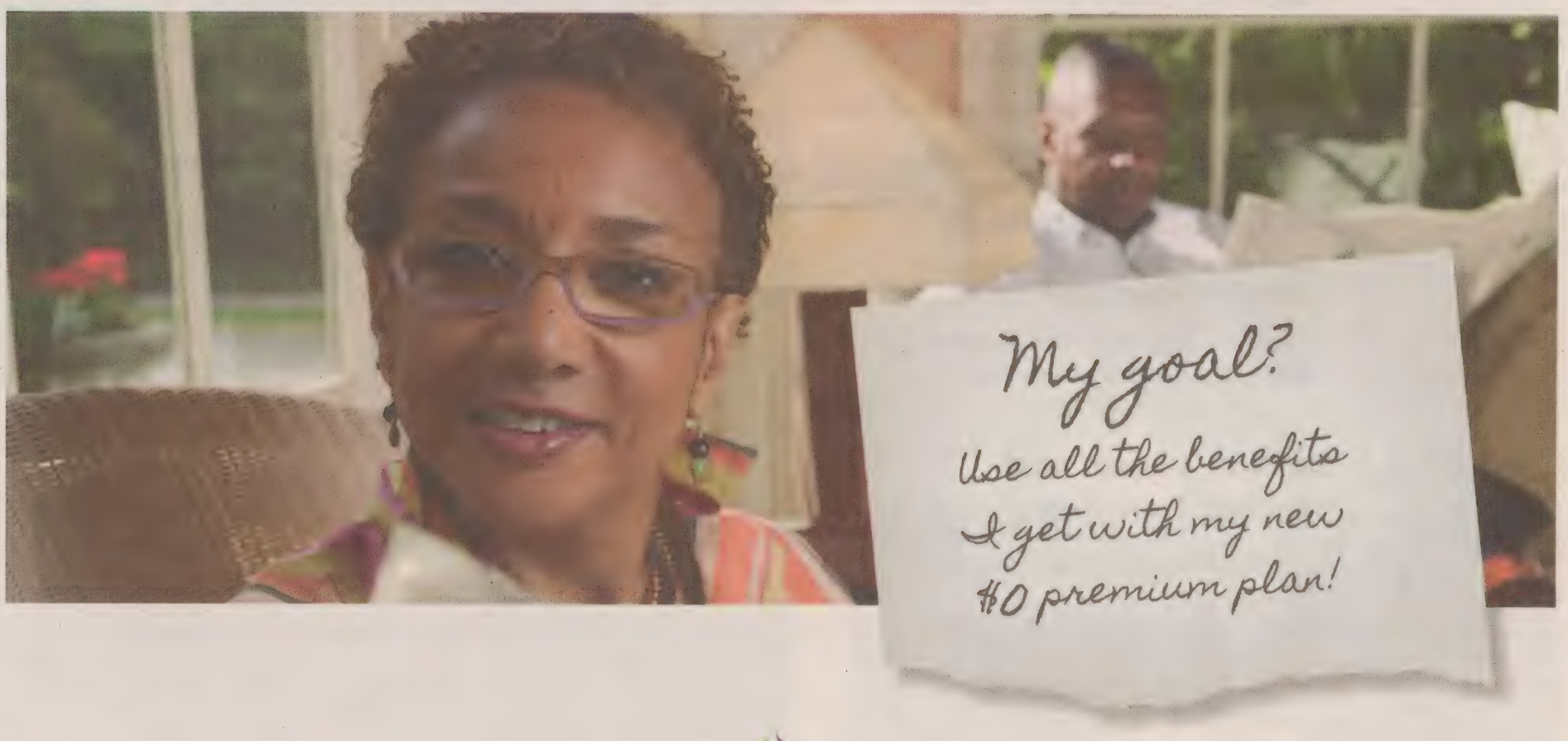

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LIFE

YOUR MONEY

How to regret-proof your home purchase

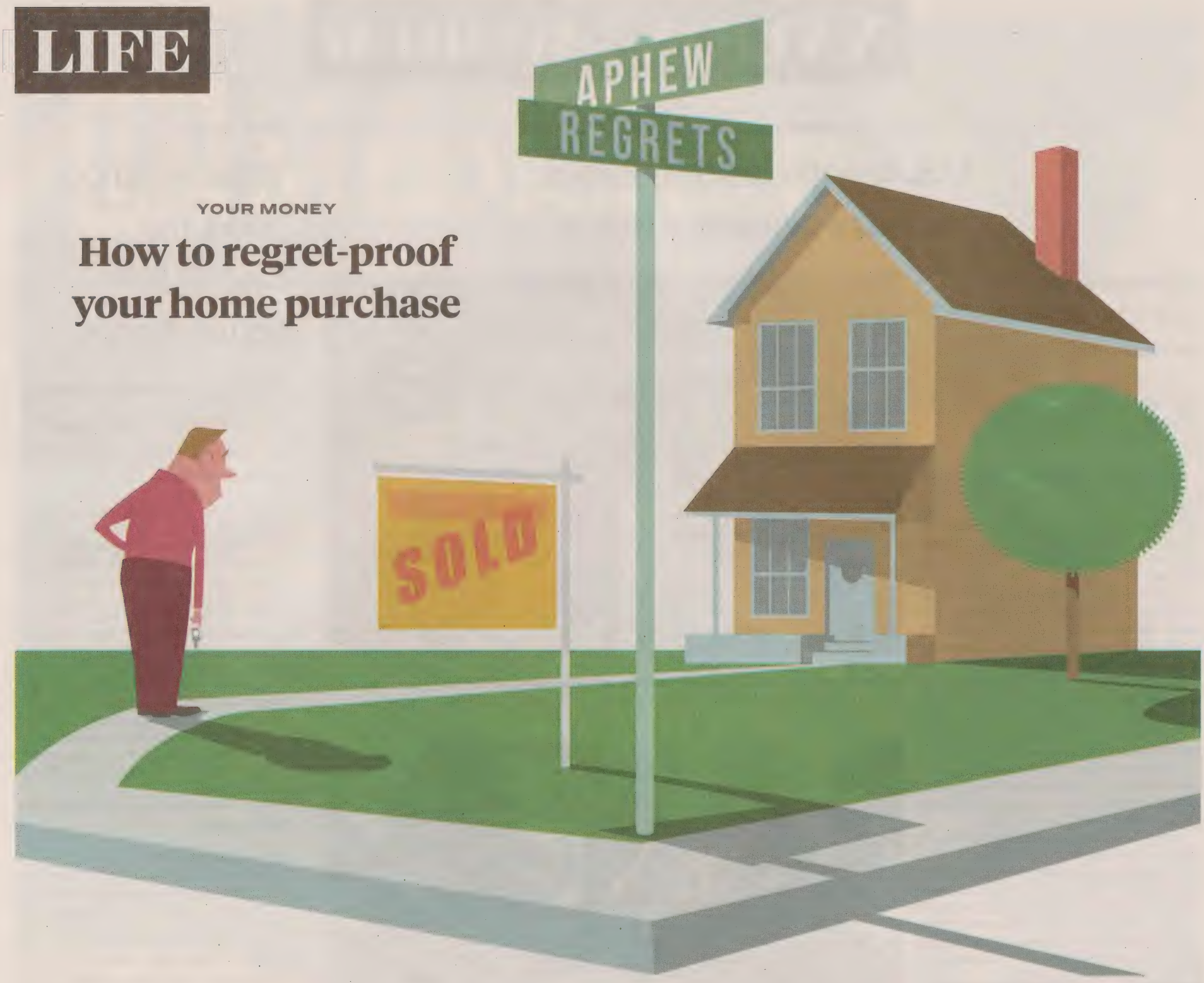

Illustration by Chris Morris, Advance Local

A total of 22% of homeowners regret buying their current home, according to a June 2025 NerdWallet survey.

Daniel Lathrop *NerdWallet*

Buying a home is a dream for many Americans, and one plenty of them have successfully realized.

But what happens if that dream becomes a nightmare? For some homeowners, it may be: 22% of homeowners regret buying their current home, according to a June 2025 NerdWallet survey, conducted online by The Harris Poll. And 8% of homeowners say they strongly regret the purchase.

Want to avoid this? If you're in the market to buy a home, here are some ways to regret-proof your purchase.

BE CHOOSY WHEN IT COMES TO LOCATION

Where you buy can dramatically impact both the cost of your home and your satisfaction living there.

Factors that can make a difference over time include busy streets, ambient noise, poorly maintained infrastructure, empty lots and whether nearby properties are well maintained. While no particular problem is a deal breaker for every buyer, think about what that "little annoyance" will mean to you when you have to contend with it every single day.

If possible, stop by the property several times before putting in an offer. Varying the times of day and days of the week you visit can show you new things, and it may give you an opportunity to meet some neighbors.

By visiting a few times, you might find on-street parking is scarce on the weekend. If you have kids, it's nice to know if your neighbors do too. On the other hand, if you prefer quiet, you may want to know if the neighbor runs an in-home child care business during the week.

GET A HOME INSPECTION

While some buyers may choose to skip a pre-purchase home inspection to make an offer seem more attractive to sellers, it is an opportunity for nasty surprises.

Seattle real estate agent Kari Haas says nobody should ever buy a house — even new construction — without knowing what they're getting into.

"I do not allow my clients to do it," Haas said. "Even when there's multiple offers and other people have waived their inspections."

A home inspection can uncover major issues such as roof problems, past flooding and construction defects. Even minor things, such as an old water heater, can provide an opportunity to negotiate with the seller, making the inspection a potential cost-saver.

Some sellers are willing to negotiate over items that turn up in an inspection, while others aren't. If the inspection uncovers new costs, make sure to add those into your budget and consider whether the added expenses push the home out of reach financially. It pays to know when to walk away.

Factors that can make a difference over time include busy streets, ambient noise, poorly maintained infrastructure, empty lots and whether nearby properties are well maintained.

BUY WHAT YOU CAN AFFORD AND REMEMBER THE "HIDDEN" COSTS

Paying too much for a home can be a major stressor. And many people will be approved for mortgages that are more than they can reasonably afford. An affordability calculator can help you determine a realistic budget given what you have saved for a down payment, your income and your other expenses.

While getting the right home is often worth cutting back spending on "extras", it can also be a source of regret when those cutbacks end up requiring major lifestyle changes.

In addition to the loan payment, don't forget to budget for the other homeownership costs. Often overlooked are the impact of property taxes, homeowners insurance, private mortgage insurance (PMI) and homeowners association fees on a monthly budget.

There's also upkeep. Lawns need mowing. Furnaces need repairs. Pipes break. All that takes time, money or both.

BE REALISTIC ABOUT UPGRADES AND REPAIRS

People often buy homes with the idea of immediately remodeling a kitchen, building an addition or otherwise doing major renovations. Others seek out a fixer-upper or find serious issues in the inspection that need to be remedied. All of these situations cost money and take time to address — often more money and time than initial estimates.

When possible, get written estimates for any home improvements you're planning and for any work that needs to be done. Also remember to anticipate the ongoing costs of the inevitable minor repairs and occasional big ticket items, even when there's no major work to do.

When budgeting, mortgage insurer Fannie Mae's rule of thumb is that homeowners will spend 1% to 4% of a home's value every year on maintenance and repairs. It may be a good idea to plan a post-purchase budget that includes a "house fund" you pay into each month to cover those expenses.

For a $410,000 home — the median price in the U.S. — that's between $340 and $1,400 per month. Especially with a fixer-upper or an older home where the costs tend towards the higher end of the range, that can have a significant impact on a family's finances, so bake this into the budget early on. While doing work yourself cuts down on the out-of-pocket costs, even DIY aficionados may not have the skills — or time — for every job that needs doing.

KNOW THE RULES AND REGULATIONS

It's worth remembering that every property is subject to the rules of city or county agencies, at minimum.

A neighborhood, townhouse or condo may also have a homeowners association with rules of its own. When these rules keep your neighbors on the straight and narrow, that seems great. When it gets in your way? Not so much.

There are basics like whether building an addition or accessory dwelling unit will be allowed, parking restrictions and noise ordinances. And an HOA, historic district or neighborhood council could have rules in place on anything from the color you paint your house to the number of pets you can own.

Make sure you read the HOA rules, get a map of the area's zoning from the local building department and ask if the town or county has any unusual regulations.

It's also important to make sure you know what's not against the rules. Look into the zoning of nearby properties: Those beautiful woods across the street may be destined to become a shopping mall.

TAKE EVERYONE'S OPINION INTO CONSIDERATION

It's critical that everyone in the household be happy with the home.

Buying your dream house that your partner doesn't particularly like guarantees disappointment — and can lead to relationship problems. But it's not just a significant other who has a stake in the home.

People living with aging parents, adult children, long-term roommates and the like may be tempted to take a "my way or the highway" approach. But if the people you live with are unhappy, you'll likely suffer as well.

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NATION & WORLD

HAMAS-ISRAEL WAR

U.S. troops land in Israel as Gaza ceasefire holds

As Palestinians return to "rubble," Israelis wait for the return of hostages.

Abdel Kareem Hana, Sam Metz, Sarah El Deeb and Sam Mednick
Associated Press

Palestinians carry their belongings as they walk along a street of ruins in Gaza City on Saturday. *Abdel Kareem Hana, Associated Press*

Tempers flared at a pro Palestinian march in London on Saturday. *Yui Mok, PA*

Tens of thousands of displaced Palestinians made their way back to their Gaza neighborhoods on Saturday, weaving through dust-shrouded streets as bulldozers clawed through the wreckage of two years of war and a ceasefire held in its second day.

Aid groups urged Israel to reopen more crossings to allow humanitarian aid into Gaza, and about 200 U.S. troops arrived in Israel to help retrieve hostages and monitor the ceasefire with Hamas.

The U.S. troops will set up a center to facilitate the flow of aid as well as logistical and security assistance. The head of the U.S. military's Central Command said he visited Gaza on Saturday to prepare it.

"This great effort will be achieved with no U.S. boots on the ground in Gaza," Adm. Brad Cooper said in a statement, noting that his command would lead the center.

Aid is just one issue for Palestinians returning to their destroyed homes.

"When people get there, they're going to find rubble. They'll find that their homes and their neighborhoods have been reduced to dust," said UNICEF spokesperson Tess Ingram, who's on the ground in central Gaza. "A ceasefire alone is not enough," Ingram said. She called for a "surge of humanitarian aid that begins to address the tremendous damage that has been done over the past two years."

FOOD IS DESPERATELY NEEDED

The World Food Program said Saturday it was ready to restore 145 food distribution points across the famine-stricken Gaza Strip, once Israel allows for expanded deliveries. Before Israel sealed off Gaza in March, U.N. agencies provided food at 400 distribution points.

A U.N. official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Israel has approved expanded aid deliveries, starting today.

Though the timeline and how the food will enter Gaza remain unclear, the distribution points will allow Palestinians to access food at more locations than they could through the U.S.- and Israel-backed Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, which had operated four locations since taking over distribution in late May.

COGAT, the Israeli military body in charge of humanitarian aid, said that more than 500 trucks had entered Gaza on Friday, though many crossings remain closed.

The aid is among the 170,000 metric tons of food aid that have been positioned in neighboring countries awaiting permission from Israel to restart deliveries.

HOSTAGES TO BE FREED MONDAY

Israel's military has said that under the truce deal, the 48 hostages still in Gaza would be freed on Monday.

These are key steps toward ending the war ignited by Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023, attacks on Israel. The fighting has killed tens of thousands of Palestinians, flattened entire neighborhoods and displaced around 90% of Gaza's more than 2 million people, some multiple times.

In Israel, families were awaiting the return of hostages taken in the 2023 attacks. The government believes around 20 of the hostages remain alive.

"It's been a few nights that we can't sleep. We want them back and we feel that everything is just hanging on a thread," Maayan Eliasi, a resident of Tel Aviv, said at a gathering at the city's Hostages Square.

WHO WILL GOVERN GAZA?

Questions remain on who will govern Gaza after Israeli troops gradually pull back and whether Hamas will disarm, as called for in the ceasefire agreement.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who unilaterally ended the previous ceasefire in March, has suggested Israel could resume its offensive if Hamas fails to disarm.

"If it's achieved the easy way, so be it. If not, it will be achieved the hard way," Netanyahu said Friday, pledging that the next stage would bring Hamas' disarmament.

The scale of destruction will become clearer if the truce holds in the weeks ahead, but more than three out of every four buildings have been destroyed, the U.N. said in September — a volume of debris equivalent to 25 Eiffel Towers, much of it likely toxic.

A February assessment by the European Union and World Bank estimated $49 billion in damage, including $16 billion to housing and $6.3 billion to the health sector.

The death toll is expected to rise as more bodies that couldn't be retrieved during Israel's offensive are found.

U.S. President Donald Trump's initial 20-point plan calls for Israel to maintain an open-ended military presence inside Gaza, along its border with Israel. An international force, comprised largely of troops from Arab and Muslim countries, would be responsible for security inside Gaza, though the timeline is unclear.

The Israeli military has said it will continue to operate defensively from the roughly 50% of Gaza it still controls after pulling back to agreed-upon lines.

U.S. envoy Steve Witkoff told Israeli officials on Friday that the United States would establish a center in Israel to coordinate issues concerning Gaza until there is a permanent government.

LOUISIANA

New Orleans' overgrown backyard reveals a secret

A family discovers a long-lost ancient Roman artifact.

Jack Brook *Associated Press*

This 1,900-year-old grave marker of a Roman sailor named Sextus Congenius Verus was discovered in a New Orleans backyard. *Susann Lusnia via AP*

A New Orleans family cleaning up their overgrown backyard made an extremely unusual find: Under the weeds was a mysterious marble tablet with Latin characters that included the phrase "spirits of the dead."

"The fact that it was in Latin that really just gave us pause, right?" said Daniella Santoro, a Tulane University anthropologist. "I mean, you see something like that and you say, 'Okay, this is not an ordinary thing.'"

Intrigued and slightly alarmed, Santoro reached out to her classical archaeologist colleague Susann Lusnia, who quickly realized that the slab was the 1,900-year-old grave marker of a Roman sailor named Sextus Congenius Verus.

"When I first saw the image that Daniella sent me, it really did send a shiver up my spine because I was just floored," Lusnia said.

Further sleuthing by Lusnia revealed the tablet had been missing from an Italian museum for decades.

As media reports of the find began circulating last week, Erin Scott O'Brien says her ex-husband called her and told her to watch the news. She immediately recognized the hunk of marble, which they had used as a garden decoration and then forgot about it before selling the home to Santoro in 2018.

"None of us knew what it was," O'Brien said. "We were watching the video, just like in shock."

O'Brien said she received the tablet from her grandparents — an Italian woman and a New Orleans native who was stationed in the country during World War II.

Verus died at age 42, of unknown causes after serving for more than two decades in the Roman navy on a ship named for the god of medicine, Asclepius. The gravestone calls the sailor "well deserving" and was commissioned by two people described as his "heirs," likely shipmates.

The tablet had been in an ancient cemetery of around 20 graves of military personnel, found in the 1860s in Civitavecchia, a seaside in northwest Italy about 30 miles from Rome. Its text had been recorded in 1910 and included in a catalog of Latin inscriptions.

Perhaps no one would be more thrilled by the tablet's rediscovery than Sextus himself. Grave markers were important in Roman culture to uphold legacies, even of everyday citizens, Lusnia said. "Now Sextus Congenius Verus is being talked about so much," Lusnia said. "If there's an afterlife and he's in it and he knows, he's very happy because this is what a Roman wants — to be remembered forever."

VIRGINIA

What we know about the case against Letitia James

N.Y. state's attorney general has been indicted in Virginia.

Associated Press

New York Attorney General Letitia James, a longtime political foe of President Donald Trump, was indicted by a federal grand jury Thursday on mortgage fraud charges. It's a case she says is bogus, cooked up by the Justice Department to cater to Trump, who had pushed for the Democrat to be prosecuted for something and ousted a federal prosecutor who resisted bringing charges.

It's a turnabout after James has spent years investigating and suing Trump.

She won a staggering judgment — later reversed on appeal — in a lawsuit alleging he defrauded banks by overstating the value of his real estate holdings on financial statements.

Here's what to know about the case against James:

THE ALLEGATIONS

James paid $137,000 in 2020 for a house in Norfolk, Virginia, where she has family.

Under the terms of her mortgage, the house was supposed to be primarily for her "personal use and enjoyment" for a period of one year, after which she was free to do whatever she liked with the property. The indictment brought by a federal prosecutor in Virginia said James never intended to live there and instead used it as an investment property, renting it to a family of three.

Prosecutors say that if James had been truthful with the bank about the home's intended use, she likely would have had to pay a slightly higher interest rate on her mortgage, costing her about $19,000 over the life of the loan.

"No one is above the law," said Lindsey Halligan, the U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia."

JAMES' RESPONSE

James and her lawyers haven't answered questions yet about the home purchase.

In a statement, though, James said the charges are "baseless" and decried the indictment as "nothing more than a continuation of the president's desperate weaponization of our justice system."

Trump pushed for months to charge James, posting on social media without citing any evidence that she's "guilty as hell."

Last month, the Trump administration pushed out Erik Siebert, who led the U.S. attorney's office investigating James, after he resisted pressure to file charges. He was replaced with Halligan, a former White House aide and ex-Trump lawyer who had never served as a federal prosecutor.

WHAT COMES NEXT

James hasn't been arrested. She is scheduled to make an initial appearance in a federal court in Virginia on Oct. 24.

It is likely to be months before the matter comes to trial, during which James is likely to remain free and can continue to serve as New York's attorney general. In that role, she represents the state in legal disputes, regulates charities and certain business matters, and is involved in prosecuting some crimes.

WHAT HAPPENS IF SHE'S GUILTY?

Legal experts say she would automatically relinquish her office. Under New York law, a felony conviction by a public office holder triggers an immediate vacancy, according to Rachael Fauss, a senior policy advisor at Reinvent Albany, a good government group.

Letitia James, 66, and her seven siblings grew up in Brooklyn, where she still lives on this street . *Yuki Iwamura, AP*

OBITUARIES

Today's Obituaries

For more information go to MLive.com.

CLARK Gerald "Gerry" Robert, 79, Ann Arbor

DELANEY James K., Jackson (Desnoyer Funeral Home)

FULMER Robert, Ann Arbor (Staffan-Mitchell Funeral Home)

HELMKE Benjamin, 95, Ann Arbor

MCLEEAN Matthew, 60, Ann Arbor

PANDIT Sujit, 90, Diamond Bar

ZEHMS-STANKRAUFF Janet R., 79, Royal Oak (Nie Family Funeral Homes)

CLARK, GERALD "GERRY" ROBERT
3/20/1946 - 9/26/2025

We lost Gerald "Gerry" Robert Clark, aged 79, after a brief illness on September 26, 2025. Gerry was born March 20, 1946, in Detroit, Michigan, to Robert Lewis Clark and Dorothy Betty Mathews.

Gerry was a beloved son, husband, father, grandfather, brother, and for all his working life a public servant. He is survived by his wife, Shutta Crum; his two children, Geoffrey (Deborah) Ehnis-Clark, and Jennifer (Ronald) Szukala; four grandchildren, Samuel Ehnis-Clark, Alec Ehnis-Clark, Chloe Szukala, and Maxwell Szukala; as well as three brothers, Michael Clark, Dennis Clark, and Bruce Clark.

After serving as a radio operator and an Army engineer in Vietnam, Gerry received his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan, as well as his graduate degree in Urban Planning.

He devoted his working life to serving his community. First as a Michigan Bell technician and then as a city planner and parks planner for the City of Ann Arbor. For many years he was the Deputy Superintendent of the Parks and Recreation Department of Ann Arbor, retiring as the acting Superintendent. He loved the outdoors and worked diligently to help bring Ann Arbor its diversity of lively and lovely parks. He served the citizens of Ann Arbor by the programs he oversaw, the people he mentored along the way, and by bringing in millions of funding dollars for the parks through the grants he wrote. Due to his efforts, he was awarded the George Sexton Public Servant of the Earth Award by the Huron Valley Sierra Club. He loved Ann Arbor and the people in it.

He also enjoyed writing poetry, hiking, canoeing, gardening, and building boat models from scratch. As a published poet he participated in many local poetry readings, taught Poetry in the Schools under the auspices of the Michigan Council for the Arts and taught Creative Writing for Washtenaw Community College. It was through poetry that Gerry met his wife Shutta. One of the early activities he particularly enjoyed was guerilla poetry, meeting with other poets in unannounced settings and suddenly presenting poems.

He lived for more than 27 years on a small farm outside of Ann Arbor. There he was able to make his love of nature personal; he rode his treasured tractors, gardened, made wine, ice skated on his pond, and enjoyed his family and all the animals that visited.

As a parks planner he was particularly proud of the Leslie Science Center and its trails, gardens, and raptors. He was delighted to serve on the Leslie Science Center board for many years.

He received loving care at Trinity Health Hospital, the University of Michigan Hospital, and Regency at the Bluffs Care Center. For this his family is thankful.

Family and friends will celebrate his life and all he brought to the community at the Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin Avenue, in Burns Park, at 11 a.m., on Saturday, November 15, 2025. Family and friends can gather at 10:30 a.m.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers all tributes be directed to the City of Ann Arbor Parks Department, c/o Josh Landefeld, 301 E. Huron St., Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104, in the name of the Gerald Clark fund, or at a2gov.org/parks-and-recreation/.

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DELANEY, JAMES K.

Of Jackson, formerly of Ann Arbor, passed away under the loving care of his family and the amazing care givers at Brightside Assisted Living on Friday, October 3, 2025. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Jane; his two sons, Aleksis (Annah) Delaney and Colin Delaney; grandson Aiden; mother Bernice Delaney; A special thank you to his brothers John, Brian (Meg) and Timothy Delaney and his sister in law Neeta (Ken) Delaney and nephews Noah (Anne Marie Strassel) Delaney, Adam Delaney, and Robert Delaney. Jim was preceded in death by his father Carl Delaney.

He was the Vice President of Human Resources for many years at Jacobson's and later became the Human Resource Director for the Jackson District Library. He was a Governor Appointed State of Michigan Certificate of Need Commissioner, Chairman of the State of Michigan Certificate of Need Commission Advisory Committee for Open Heart Surgery Standards, Board President/Director with Community Health Partners of Jackson (an employer formed PPO), Director of the Michigan Purchasers Health Alliance (MichPHA), Board President and Director of South Central Michigan Health Care Coalition, and President of the Board, Vice President, Board Member at Family Service and Children's Aid. Jim had a Masters Degree in Fine Arts and was an avid painter. He enjoyed listening to music and was a huge Michigan Fan.

According to his wishes cremation has taken place. The Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Saturday, October 18, 2025 at 10:30 AM at Queen of the Miraculous Medal Catholic Church, 1111 Carlton Blvd., Jackson with Fr. Timothy MacDonald officiating.

The family will receive friends at Queen's Church on Saturday October 18 from 10:00 to 10:30 AM.

Contributions to Family Service and Children's Aid, 330 W Michigan Ave, Jackson, MI 49201 would be appreciated.

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FULMER, ROBERT
JUNE 13, 2025
Ann Arbor

Robert Hardie Fulmer, aged 83, of Ann Arbor, MI passed away on June 13, 2025 from complications of cryptogenic cirrhosis surrounded by family.

He was born in 1942 in St. Louis, MO to Katharine (Hardie) Fulmer and Chester E. Fulmer.

During the second World War he lived in Massachusetts, Missouri, Michigan and North Carolina. Later, after living in Brooklyn, NY and Hartford, CT, he settled in Ann Arbor with his mother.

He was a graduate of Ann Arbor High School and Eastern Michigan University.

On June 4, 1966 he married Ann M. Rentschler to have and to hold for 59 years.

He served as an M.P. in the U.S. Army at Fort Polk, LA; worked for the U.S. Postal Service for 38 years, and another 17 years as a school bus driver for the Ann Arbor Public Schools.

Bob was an avid reader, and a devoted UM Football fan holding season tickets for many years.

He liked playing the Wordle game on his iPad, and TV shows enjoyed were Jeopardy, late-night re-runs of the Johnny Carson show, Turner Classic Movies and the news. He was always interested in what was going on locally, nationally and worldly.

He enjoyed the camaraderie of a long-lasting Friday night poker group with players Fred, Dick, Barry, Dan, Jim, Steve, Stu, and Gary.

Robert was preceded in death by his parents, and half brothers Douglas and Jonathan. He is survived by his wife Ann, sons Robbie Fulmer and David Fulmer, half brothers Paul and Sean and cousins Betsy, Teri and Meri.

Bob was just an all around Good Guy.

Cremation has taken place. A celebration of his life is planned for November 16 at the Ann Arbor Senior Center in Burns Park, 1320 Baldwin Ave., Ann Arbor, beginning at 1:30 p.m.

Memorial contributions are welcomed in his memory to the Salvation Army and Food Gatherers.

PANDIT, SUJIT
JULY 1, 1935 - OCTOBER 8, 2025
Diamond Bar

Dr. Sujit Kumar Pandit was born on July 1, 1935, in Jamalpur, Mymensingh, East Bengal, India (now Bangladesh). His early life was shaped by the Partition of India in 1947, which he survived as a twelve-year-old witness to immense loss and upheaval. Forced to flee his childhood home, he lived for two years in a refugee colony in Calcutta—an experience that instilled in him resilience, empathy, and an enduring curiosity about humanity.

Sujit's academic brilliance and drive became his guiding lights. He attended Kumar Ashutosh High School, Ramakrishna Mission Vidya Mandir at Belur Math, and Bangabasi College. In 1953 he earned his medical degree from Calcutta Medical College — the oldest Western medical school in Asia — launching a lifetime devoted to medicine and teaching.

After residencies in Bhopal and Delhi under the mentorship of the renowned Dr. B.L. Bhattacharjee, he earned his Diploma in Anesthesiology in 1963. The next year he married fellow physician Dr. Rukmini Govindani, and together they moved to the Postgraduate Medical Institute at Chandigarh (PGI), where he became a lecturer and the first MD graduate in Anesthesiology at the University of Punjab. Their marriage was tragically brief — Rukmini passed away from hepatitis in 1967.

In search of renewal, Sujit moved to Belfast, Northern Ireland, later that year to serve as Senior Tutor at Queen's University under Professor J.W. Dundee. There he earned his FFARCS (England) and began PhD studies before returning to Chandigarh in 1970 as Associate Professor. In 1971, he married Dr. Uma Anand, a pediatric surgeon, and together they embarked on a new chapter in the United States.

After joining the University of Colorado in 1973, the couple followed Dr P.J. Cohen in 1976 to Ann Arbor, Michigan, where Dr. Pandit rose swiftly through the ranks at the University of Michigan, becoming a Full Professor within four years—a rare achievement for a new immigrant. Known for his intellect, humor, and generosity, he mentored generations of anesthesiologists with both rigor and warmth. He received the Robert B. Sweet Teacher of the Year Award (1986) and was twice nominated for the Kaiser Permanente Award for Excellence in Teaching. A respected national leader, he served as an editor for JAMA in 1980 and served as President of the Society for Ambulatory Anesthesia (SAMBA) in 1997. Though he officially retired in 2001, he continued to work in outpatient surgery until 2006.

His homeland remained close to his heart—he was instrumental in establishing a Bengali language program at the University of Michigan to preserve the culture that shaped him.

After Uma's passing from pancreatic cancer in 2002, Dr. Pandit honored her legacy and their shared devotion to education through the creation of the endowed Sujit and Uma Pandit Lectureship and later the endowed Uma and Sujit Pandit Professorship in Pediatric Anesthesiology.

In the later part of his life he turned his curiosity outward to the world, traveling widely and sending witty, reflective "postcards" chronicling his journeys. His writing—rich with humor, compassion, and sharp insight—mirrored his character: generous, full of life, and unafraid to speak his mind. Whether discussing medicine, politics, or philosophy, he brought warmth, conviction, and laughter to every room.

He is survived by his daughters Anita Pandit and Anjali Pandit Bokota, son-in-law Keith Bokota, and beloved grandchildren Ashla and Ashwin Mancia, Ayla, Evan, and Naomi Bokota. He is also survived by his siblings Dilip Pandit, Gayatri Majumdar, and Dipu Nath, as well as extended family, nieces, nephews, colleagues, and countless friends across the world.

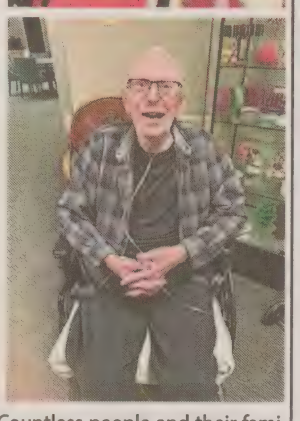
He is remembered as a man of rare intellect, integrity, and joy — a teacher, physician, husband, father, grandfather, and friend who lived fully and loved deeply.

Dr. Pandit passed away peacefully in California on October 8, 2025, with his daughters Anita and Anjali by his side.

His memoir closes with a line from Rabindranath Tagore, his favorite poet:

"Whatever I have given you, they were your gifts to me; more you have accepted them, more indebted you have made me. Farewell, my friend."

HELMKE, BENJAMIN
MARCH 28, 1930 - JULY 27, 2025
Ann Arbor



Benjamin Lee Helmke died on July 27, 2025, at the age of 95.

He was born on March 28, 1930, in Iuka, Kansas, to George and Rosa Helmke, a brother added to the constellation of four older sisters—Dorothy, Florence, Flossie, and Ruth. His little sister, Keo, joined the family two years later.

Ben's parents instilled in him values of hard work, stewardship of the land, and collective responsibility, ideals affirmed by the agricultural community in which he was immersed. While he never pursued farming as a career, Ben faced life's challenges with a farmer's resourcefulness and adaptability.

He served in the U.S. Army, and was stationed in Japan during the Korean War. He took on the roles of chaplain's assistant and organist in the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps.

He majored in history at Hastings College in Nebraska. The decision to become a minister led him to study theology at McCormick Seminary in Chicago, from 1956 to 1960. At the same time, he worked as a church organist and choir director at several Chicago churches. Fourth Presbyterian was the center of his church life. It is also where he met his wife Paulena "Polly" Cleland. They were married in 1960.

In the period between 1960 and 1968, Ben served as minister at two different Presbyterian churches, in Indianapolis and then in Homer, Michigan. The position in Michigan was a particularly good fit. His theological knowledge, musical skills, small-town background—including his talent for talking to just about anybody and his community engagement—were exactly what Homer needed at the time.

Eventually, Ben came to see that counseling was not only essential to being a pastor but also his genuine calling. Yet, this was where he had the least training. He therefore decided to pursue a master's degree in social work at the University of Michigan. When he arrived, he discovered that family counseling was not a part of the curriculum. He managed to convince the faculty of its importance, and so it was added. While at UM, he also worked as part-time clergy at First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor.

As Ben and Polly raised their children, George, Carolyn, and Scott, they made many lifelong friends at "First Pres" and enjoyed participating in church services, the choir, various committees, and in the weekly coffee hour.

Ann Arbor was a hotbed of activism in the 1960s and '70s. Ben and Polly were deeply committed to peace, civil rights, and gender equality. Their social engagement ranged from war protests, like a bomb crater dig, to involvement in the start-up of Ann Arbor's Peace Neighborhood Center, whose mission was, and still is, to support individuals and families dealing with challenging social and financial issues.

Upon graduation from UM, Ben held positions at Ypsilanti State Hospital near Saline, Michigan, and Six Area Coalition in Lincoln Park, Michigan.

But his ultimate career mission was founding Tamson Center in 1975, a social work services business in Taylor, Michigan, devoted to individual and family counseling. A primary area of focus was auto workers and their families who were dealing with changes in the auto industry in the 1970s. Countless people and their families benefited from Tamson Center's programs.

After retiring from social work, Ben pursued acting and developed a one-man show about Mark Twain, which he performed for several years, including a week at the Performance Network in Ann Arbor. This led him to more acting roles in local theater in both Michigan and Colorado, among them the part of Scrooge in Dickens' A Christmas Carol.

Following a lifetime of internal struggle, Ben came out as gay to his family in 1982. He and Polly did not divorce and were able to resolve many of their issues as a couple before she died in 1984 of metastatic breast cancer.

In 1989, he met Ernest Leonard "Len" Quenon and enjoyed a fun and adventurous partnership that lasted until Len's passing in 2014. With Len came seven loving and boisterous kids and many, many grandchildren who enjoyed holidays with Ben's kids in Colorado: The very definition of the modern blended family.

He was active as a parent—in scouting, music, hobbies, the family cottage, trips all over the United States, and practical training via home improvement projects. His children and their families ended up in many places, and he traveled extensively to be an engaged part of their lives wherever they were.

Ben is remembered as a person who lived for a meaningful conversation. It was the basis of his career and why he meant so much to so many people, both professionally and in his private life. He didn't just "take the time" to talk with people; he really enjoyed each opportunity to share thoughts and experiences with others.

Ben is survived by his partner, Harry Marsden; George (Tine Asmundsen), Carolyn (Robert Wilkins), and Scott; his granddaughter, Pauline Asmundsen Helmke; a multitude of nieces, nephews, and even more grands; and many close friends.

If you would like to donate in Ben's honor, please consider Peace Neighborhood Center in Ann Arbor.

Peace Neighborhood Center's mission is to provide programs for children, families, and individuals who are affected by social and economic problems. Peace helps people discover options, enhance skills, and make choices that lead to self-sufficiency and positive community involvement.

The family will honor Ben at the First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor, MI, on March 28, 2026.

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OBITUARIES

MCLEEAN, MATTHEW
7/20/1965 - 9/7/2025
Ann Arbor

Matthew Warren McLean, age 60, was born on July 20, 1965 and died on September 7, 2025 from congenital heart failure at Hillside Terrace Senior Living in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Matthew was dearly loved by his family and his circle of friends. He will be remembered for his friendly nature, resilience, and sense of humor. He is survived by his sister Laurie (Kerry) Hogan-McLean and brother Mitchell (Amanda) McLean, and several aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. Preceding him in death were his parents, Warren Donald McLean and Carole (Allen) Malinoff, both from Ann Arbor, and grandparents Walter & Helen McLean and Harold & Adelaide Cumberworth.

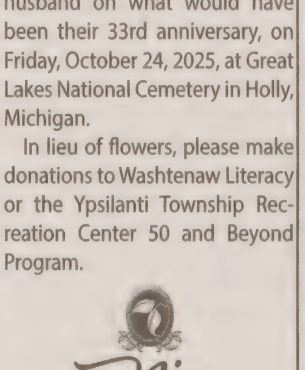
Matthew graduated from Highpoint School in Ann Arbor, where he made good friends and learned valuable lifelong skills. His parents encouraged a strong confidence in his own ability to live independently and to fully enjoy his life despite his heart health struggles. He rarely complained. In his early years, he had fun swimming, bowling, and listening to and calling his favorite radio station to make requests; he worked at Fox Village Theater and Goodtime Charlie's in Ann Arbor. Although Matthew enjoyed his independence, he was an integral part of the community. He worked for many years as a weekly volunteer at the University of Michigan Hospital, where "everybody knew his name." The wonderful staff in the Congenital Heart Center at Mott were his inner circle of support and friendship there throughout his life. Matthew's love for radio, 80's music, and U of M basketball and football were lifelong pleasures.

Matthew valued his long-time friendships. He never forgot a phone number or address, and he kept in touch with all the important people in his life with regular calls and letters. Matthew was also gifted at initiating friendly interactions with people as part of his everyday routine. He made positive connections with everyone he came into contact with, from the mail carrier to the desk receptionist. He enjoyed making people laugh with his standard jokes; if he liked you, he called you "trouble," often earning himself the same nickname.

The family is grateful for the countless good people in the community who earned Matthew's affection with their caring, time, sense of humor, and support. Matthew's life was a tribute to the power of connection and belonging, and to the small but important parts we each play in providing that for one another. We will miss him so much.

A Celebration of Matthew's Life will be held on Sunday, October 26th at 2:00pm at All Seasons Ann Arbor, 4600 All Seasons Circle. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Washtenaw Association for Community Advocacy or to Save a Heart through University of Michigan's Congenital Heart Center.

ZEHMS-STANKRAUFF, JANET R.
4/14/1946 - 9/28/2025
Royal Oak, Michigan



Janet Rae Zehms-Stankrauff, age 79, died in Royal Oak, Michigan, on Sunday, September 28, 2025.

Jan was born on April 14, 1946, in Green Bay, Wisconsin, to Raymond and Esther (Johnson) Zehms. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Madison in 1968 with a Bachelor of Physical Science and moved shortly thereafter to Ann Arbor, Michigan, to begin her career as a Physical Therapist at St. Joseph Hospital. She later worked as a home health Physical Therapist in Danbury, Connecticut, Leavenworth, Kansas, and Dallas, Texas, before returning to Michigan in the late 1980s where she worked at the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor until her retirement in 2008. While working at the VA Hospital, Jan returned to school to earn a Graduate Certificate in Gerontology from Eastern Michigan University in 1992.

Jan enjoyed traveling all over the world with her late husband, Jack, as well as to Florida every spring with "the girls." In addition to travel, Jan loved to cheer on the Green Bay Packers, golf, create stained glass art, and tap dance – taking her first class at the young age of 40.

Jan volunteered for over a decade as a tutor with Washtenaw Literacy and was also a member of the Huron Valley Sunrise Lions Club, Ypsilanti Township Recreation Center 50 and Beyond program, and Trinity Lutheran Church in Ann Arbor.

Jan is survived by her daughters, Ursula Adams and Alison Stankrauff; son-in-law, Bryan Adams; granddaughter, Aleah Adams; sister, Joan Vernon; brother-in-law, Ronald Vernon; sister-in-law, Julie Stoffels; brother-in-law, John Stoffels; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents; son, Brian Graham; and her beloved husband, Jack.

Services will be held on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Ann Arbor, a memorial gathering will begin at 11:00 am, followed by a service at 11:30 am. A luncheon will be hosted at the church following the memorial for Jan's friends and family. Jan's cremated remains will be reunited with her husband on what would have been their 33rd anniversary, on Friday, October 24, 2025, at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Washtenaw Literacy or the Ypsilanti Township Recreation Center 50 and Beyond Program.

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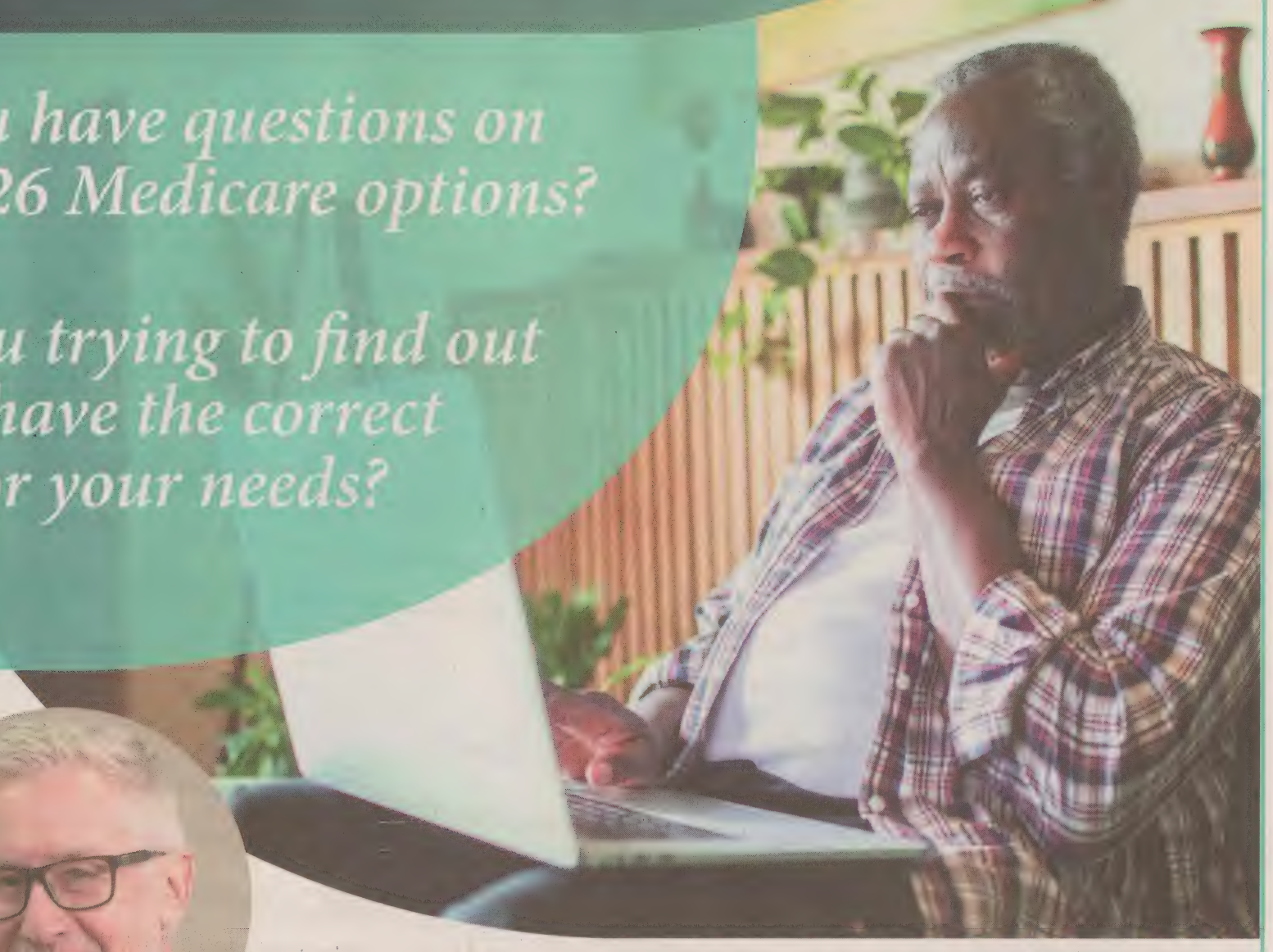
John Hiner, Moderator



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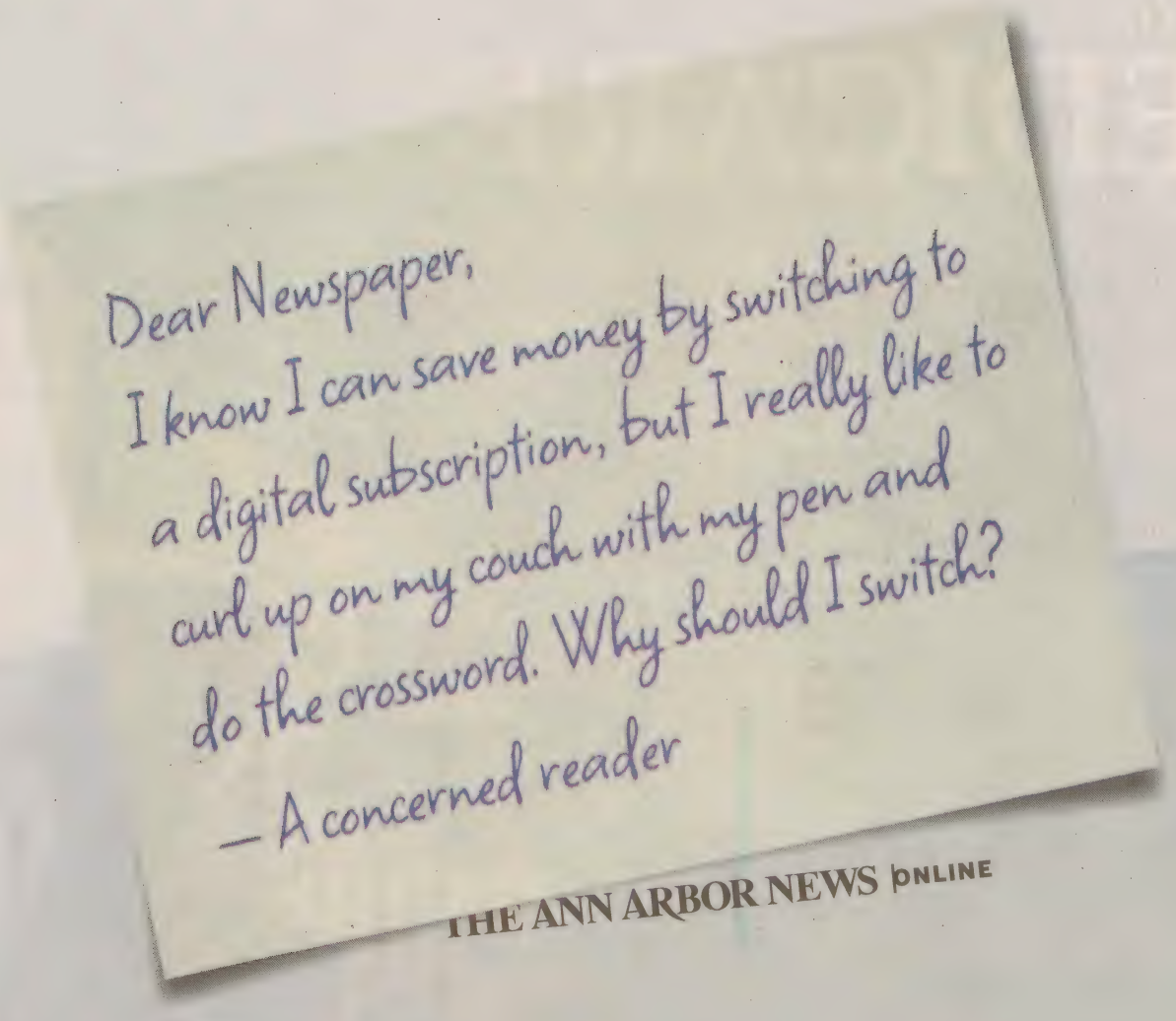
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LIFE

HOMES

Micro-organizing is key to a tidy home

While it's not an exact science, a micro-organizing task is one that should take 5 to 10 minutes, 15 minutes at most. Here's how to try it for 30 days.

Illustration by Chris Morris, Advance Local

Jolie Kerr *Washington Post*

Do you ever wonder how people with perfectly tidy homes do it? Do they know something you don't know? Are they using magic?

The always-tidy are probably not employing magic, at least not in the traditional sense of wands and cauldrons, but almost every "naturally" tidy person is probably using a technique known as micro-organizing to keep their homes in order.

"Micro-organizing refers to small-scale, focused organization projects that can be completed quickly, typically within a single drawer, shelf or category, rather than overhauling an entire room or home," says Gala Magrina, a holistic interior designer. While it's not an exact science, a micro-organizing task is one that should take 5 to 10 minutes, 15 minutes at most.

In many ways, micro-organizing is a mindset. People who micro-organize often take advantage of "dwell time" to knock out tasks. Do you have a mask on your face or hair? Use that time to sort out the medicine cabinet. Are you waiting for a pot of coffee to brew? Sift through a utensil crock or collection of food storage containers and pare it down to its best and most essential items.

Cynthia Kennedy, a personal stylist and image consultant, calls micro-organizing "a nonnegotiable in my own space" and in clients' homes.

"Micro-systems help you stay ahead of the chaos by giving every item a place that makes sense, and micro-organizing maintains that calm, curated feel long-term," Kennedy says.

Removing the pressure of a large-scale organizing or decluttering effort can be a game changer for people who struggle with organizing. And, for many, focusing on small projects as part of a month-long organizing challenge can be transformative. Prefabricated organizing challenges abound on the internet, but you are not beholden to someone else's creation; choose one to follow, or make one of your own. And if a month feels too macro, we have ideas for micro-organizing tasks you can knock off today.

HOW TO CREATE A MONTH-LONG MICRO-ORGANIZING CHALLENGE

Day 1: Create a list of micro-organizing tasks

Grab a pen and paper, or your phone or tablet, and go from room to room making a list of the organizing tasks you've been meaning to get to. Be ruthless: Open closets and drawers, look in corners, and, most importantly, take time to consider places where clutter or disorganization creates problems for you. In project planning, this is called the assessment stage, and it is crucial to success - you will be tempted to skip it, but don't.

Day 2: Calendar the tasks

On the second day of your challenge, create a calendar of events based on how many and what type of small organizing jobs you identified on Day 1. Aim to calendar 12 to 15 tasks — about one job every other day — which will allow wriggle room if you miss a day and keep overwhelm to a minimum. If the list you compiled on Day 1 exceeds the days on the calendar, pick the most meaningful tasks and table the rest for later.

Day 3-30: Complete each task

Follow the plan you created for yourself, and use the free days you carved out if you need them. It's okay to break down what you thought was one task into smaller ones once you get going; a jam-packed medicine cabinet will be just as organized if you tackle it shelf by shelf over two days as it will if you do it in one go.

On the final day, reward yourself in some way or, at a minimum, take a stroll around your home to admire the results of your work.

MICRO-ORGANIZING PROJECTS TO PICK OFF TODAY, THIS WEEKEND, THIS MONTH

If a full month feels like too much, try picking one or two of the micro-organizing projects and adding it to your to-do list for today, this weekend or this month.

Tidy the junk drawer: Do you find yourself constantly fishing around your junk drawer for the scissors? Take five or so minutes to solve that problem for your future self. Start by taking everything out of the drawer and quickly weed out and throw away anything that is truly junk.

Use drawer dividers, empty boxes or imperfect food storage containers to create compartments for sorting the things you want to keep by type.

Food-storage-container management: Tame an unruly collection of food storage containers by taking all of them out, matching the lids to their containers, and getting rid of any pieces that are missing their other half or that are damaged. Repurpose infrequently used or raggedy-but-serviceable containers to bring order to that junk drawer.

Tame the entryway: "High-traffic areas like the entryway and mudroom are especially important," says Ross Sapir, founder and CEO of Roadway Moving.

"A little organization there goes a long way in keeping things calm and manageable." Take 10 minutes to put away entryway clutter that makes it challenging to get in and out of the house, including coats, bags, shoes, umbrellas and reusable totes.

One book shelf at a time: "Closed-book shelves or cabinets tend to get messy because they're behind closed doors, and, when you're in a rush, it's easy to just stuff things in and close the door. Pulling everything out of one cabinet to edit and reorganize is important," Magrina says.

Streamline the pantry: Like bookshelves, pantries are a great place to work one shelf at a time. Throw out expired food, and store like items together to make meal preparation more manageable.

"Group dry goods into labeled bins (e.g., snacks, baking, grains) to avoid overbuying and keep everything streamlined," Sapir says.

Clean out a bathroom drawer or medicine cabinet: Ferret out expired, empty and unused products that create clutter in the bathroom.

"Toiletries and cosmetics can easily get out of hand because of how many samples we get and how many times we'll buy something, use it once, and forget about it," Magrina says. Make a note of items you have duplicates of and put a moratorium on restocking them.

Create a tech catchall station: If you are always searching for your charger, headphones, extra battery packs and other tech accessories, carve out 10 to 15 minutes to set up a single space for these items to call home. "Use a divided box to store chargers, earbuds and batteries in their own sections," Sapir says. "No more digging through drawers."

Take on a few small tasks in the closet: "Instead of overhauling your whole closet," Kennedy says, "begin with your tangled jewelry, a belt bin, or that random pile of scarves." Did you find some strays among those small items? "Dedicate a tray or bowl for lost-and-found items — the earring back, the lone button, the mystery necklace clasp. It keeps the random bits contained until you figure out what they belong to."

Finally, she suggests hanging a multi-pocket organizer inside the closet door for lint rollers, a travel-size steamer, double-sided tape and other fabric care notions. "All the unsung heroes in one place," she says.

HOMES

Overwhelmed by chores? Try 'batching.'

Jolie Kerr *Washington Post*

When it comes to managing our homes and personal lives, most of us aren't using an Eisenhower Matrix to organize our to-do lists. But techniques and processes designed for the workplace can be surprisingly effective when applied at home, especially tools designed to improve time management skills.

One such tool, a technique known as batching, can combat overload and help us get stuff done — whatever that stuff may be. If you find yourself forever multitasking but never really accomplishing anything, batching may be the solution your stressed-out mind needs.

WHAT IS BATCHING?

"Batching is a productivity technique where similar tasks are completed in a dedicated block of time, rather than being spread out or tackled randomly," says Nicole Gabai, a professional organizer and the author of "The Art of Organizing." Bundling — or batching — similar tasks helps the brain stay focused.

It can reduce cognitive overload and improve productivity, according to Karishma Patel Buford, the chief people officer at Spring Health. "Instead of jumping between different kinds of tasks like answering emails, cleaning or prepping meals, you set aside time to complete each type all at once."

THE DOWNSIDE TO MULTITASKING

When faced with extreme busyness, it can feel logical to rely on multitasking. But that could be creating more problems than it solves. "Research shows it can actually drain focus and energy," Buford says. "Batching minimizes the mental cost of switching tasks."

WHY BATCHING WORKS FOR DECLUTTERING AND ORGANIZING

At their core, decluttering and organizing are about decision-making. When you're faced with a task that is more mentally exhausting than physically taxing, the best way to simplify the process is to reduce the number of decisions you need to make. Batching facilitates this by narrowing your focus. "Instead of trying to organize an entire room or your entire house at once, group similar tasks or items together and tackle them in manageable chunks," Gabai says. "Your brain works more efficiently and with greater confidence when you're making repeated decisions about similar items."

Gabai tells her clients to think in sections that you tackle in discrete organizing sessions.

"For example, instead of doing the whole kitchen in one sitting, start with food storage containers. Then go on to the spices section, then the utensils. And that would give you a good, manageable start."

TRY BATCHING TO TACKLE ROUTINE OR REPETITIVE CLEANING JOBS

Batching is most suited to organizing and decluttering projects, but it can be applied to cleaning jobs, too. "Rather than cleaning one room at a time, batch by task: Vacuum all floors, then dust all surfaces and then clean all mirrors," Buford says. "With less time lost in transitions, it's easier to keep a satisfying rhythm going."

Buford uses the example of a messy kitchen to illustrate how batching can improve efficiency and leave you feeling less frazzled. "Don't bounce between wiping counters and organizing drawers," she says. "Instead, batch by activity. Clean all surfaces first, then tackle drawer organization next. This allows for a flow state that feels manageable, and for some, even meditative."

It's particularly useful, Gabai says, for tasks that "repeat across all sections in every room." Buford recommends it for "routine or repetitive tasks where consistency matters."

Examples include: Collecting items to donate; doing laundry; physical organization like cleaning out cabinets, closets or toy boxes; filing paperwork; whole-home cleaning by task, such as vacuuming or dusting.

Switching from cleaning room by room to batching may look like this: Instead of cleaning the living room on Tuesday, the bedrooms on Wednesday and so on, you might dust the entire home on Tuesday, strip all the beds on Wednesday, vacuum on Thursday, and clean and disinfect hard surfaces on Friday.

I've battled backyard wasps for two years. Guess who won?

It's crucial to know if the stinging pest is social or solitary before you venture out to do battle, to protect yourself.

Shutterstock

Amy McHugh *Washington Post*

I've tried every known remedy to eliminate what I was sure were hornets in my backyard, but after two summers of battling them, I'm ready to concede: They have won the war.

The uninvited guests colonized the worn joints of my bluestone patio last year. Anticipating their return, in the spring I power-washed the stones and sealed the gaps with an expensive sand-and-gravel mixture. And for several weeks this summer, I celebrated what seemed like victory - not a single insect hovered above my patio. That all changed around mid-July when they returned, drilling through my fortified sand barrier with military precision.

Mindful of risks to my goldendoodle and toddler nieces who play in the backyard, I researched nonchemical pest-control methods. I watched YouTube tutorials and TikTok reels, and I clicked on links that organic gardeners swore held foolproof solutions.

I poured boiling water down holes. I slathered the area with dish soap, then used a hose to create mountains of bubbles. I placed small cups of mint essential oil around, then planted actual mint. I tried vinegar and an "all-natural" spray from a big-box store. Nothing worked.

Their occupation held my backyard hostage. It was time to consult the experts about what — if anything — I could do.

KNOW YOUR STINGING PEST

"The first step is always identification," says Jim Fredericks, chief entomologist for the National Pest Management Association. "It might seem easy, but there are different species of stinging pests, and each has different behaviors and responses to treatments."

It turns out that my stinging pests weren't hornets, but cicada-eating wasps. "People misidentify their pests all the time and then wonder why they can't eliminate them," Fredericks says. The NPMA provides an online guide to help homeowners identify their specific stinging insect.

It's also crucial to know if the stinging pest is social or solitary before you venture out to do battle, to protect yourself. Solitary insects, including ground-nesting bees and wasps, are relatively docile around their nursery area, while social stingers like hornets, umbrella wasps and bees defend their home aggressively. "They get really upset when threatened and come out in large numbers to attack," says Wizzie Brown, senior extension program specialist at Texas A&M. "There are thousands of wasps in a mature colony, and each can sting multiple times."

For more aggressive stingers, including yellow jackets, it may be best to enlist a professional.

DO ORGANIC REMEDIES WORK?

I wanted to find something that would be effective but wouldn't harm my dog, my nieces or wildlife. Is there such a thing? The internet screams "YES!" but experts are skeptical.

"Nearly all insecticides, whether organic or synthetic, are broad-spectrum and can't differentiate between a good bug and a bad bug," says Joe Lamp'l, founder of Joe Gardener. "Between 97% and 99% of bugs are not pests and are beneficial or neutral. Killing them with an insecticide has consequences to all insects, wildlife and the environment."

And they're not just bad for insects. According to the American Bird Conservancy, as many as 67 million wild birds in the United States may be killed every year by ingesting insecticides.

"I wish organic insecticides were safe and more effective, but the truth of the matter is, snake venom and ricin are organic, and both are highly deadly," Lamp'l says. Vinegar can be lethal to frogs, toads and lizards, he adds. "Organic gives people peace of mind, but it's really a misconception."

Other "natural" solutions, including online hacks like boiling water, essential oils and soapy water, may be less toxic, but they aren't effective. I tried boiling water, but the larvae were buried too deep to be affected. The soapy solution and essential oils require multiple applications, which I failed to do. And my strategic placement of a mint plant might have been too late to be effective.

Some people claim that blue paint or decoy paper bags can help keep stinging insects at bay, but there's no science to support those ideas, says Johnalyn Gordon, an assistant professor at the Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center. "Some natural remedies may solve the problem, but there isn't evidence they'll consistently be effective," Gordon says.

WHAT ABOUT SYNTHETIC PESTICIDES?

"People think anything laboratory-made is bad and anything natural is good, but that's not necessarily true," Brown says. "Water is a chemical, and naturally derived products from plants like pyrethrins are chemicals too. A pesticide is a pesticide, whether it's made in a laboratory, comes from a plant, or is soap and water."

Before they can be marketed, commercial insecticides, which contain ingredients like pyrethrins, pyrethroids and other synthetic compounds, must go through scientific testing that shows the toxicity of the product, how long it lasts in the environment, its efficacy and how it breaks down under certain conditions. The chemicals are required to pose no threat to pets or humans when used properly.

Before approving them, the Environmental Protection Agency "weighs the risks to humans or nontarget wildlife against the potential economic benefit of its use," according to its website.

When Faith Oi, an associate professor of urban entomology at the University of Florida, had hornets near her front door, she turned to mainstream insecticides. "The EPA puts pesticides through pretty rigorous testing," Oi says.

After exhausting all the natural methods, I broke down and ordered a chemical spray that had glowing online reviews. I sprayed it into the holes late at night and again before the sun rose, per the label instructions. It didn't work; by midmorning the insects rose again.

Regardless of whether you use an organic or synthetic pesticide, Lamp'l says, you should narrow the treatment area, use as little insecticide as possible and read the instructions. "People use the whole can," he says. "It's overkill and has ripple effects."

ALTERNATIVES TO PESTICIDES

The best way to keep stinging insects away is to prevent them from establishing residence in the first place.

Trim bushes and trees away from foundations and keep your lawn trimmed. Seal driveway or patio cracks and other burrowing places.

Stinging ground insects, including yellow jackets, ground bees (like digger bees), bumblebees and cicada killers prefer dry soil, so keep your landscape well-watered and cover bald spots with mulch, Oi says. Also eliminate food sources by keeping sticky soda cans, trash barrels and coolers out of your yard. Or, at the very least, cover them, empty trash regularly and wash recycling bins. Take action at the first sight of a stinging insect, to keep the population from getting out of hand.

NO ACTION IS THE BEST ACTION

Regardless of whether you're comfortable using pesticides, experts say, it's best to leave stinging insects alone if they're not in high-traffic areas. Lamp'l takes it a step further and says to leave them alone even if they're in inconvenient areas.

"I let Mother Nature bring in beneficial insects, and allow predatory insects to take out the bad bugs," Lamp'l says. "Everything is connected to everything. We're not just killing one insect. We're risking harm to a whole ecosystem."

To avoid them, you can move your grill, use an alternative door or rope off part of your yard. Having them around can be beneficial, after all: Predatory wasps pollinate and feed their babies insects, and many stinging insects attack other pests.

"Getting people to believe Mother Nature will take care of their bug problem if they're patient can be difficult," says Lamp'l. "But once they do, they never go back."

GARDEN

Transform your houseplants into art with this Japanese technique

Jessica Damiano *Associated Press*

Now that fall is here, we're turning our attention to indoor plants. It's a great time to explore a practice called kokedama and have a little fun making a special addition to our collections.

The Japanese method of growing plants in a living planter made of a moss-covered ball of soil, is a simple, DIY project that elevates common houseplants into works of art. They make great gifts, too.

Because roots growing in exposed soil dry out more quickly than potted ones, plants with low-water needs are ideal for kokedama.

I make mine with spider plant "pups," but you might also consider pothos or philodendron for low-light areas, or succulents for brighter spots.

What you'll need

2 large bowls
Peat moss
Bonsai soil (or ordinary potting mix that contains peat moss and perlite)
Water
Preserved moss sheets (available at craft stores)
Scissors
Waxed thread or fishing line
A small plant

Kokedama is a Japanese method of growing plants in a living planter made of a moss-covered ball of soil. *Shutterstock*

Directions

Start by placing a sheet of preserved moss into a bowl. Add warm water to cover it.

Take your plant out of its pot and gently remove excess soil from its roots. Set it aside.

Make your potting mix in the second bowl by combining 7 parts peat moss with 3 parts soil.

Slowly and gradually add water to the mixture, combining it with your hands until you can form a firm ball large enough to contain your plant's roots. Pack the ball tightly as if making a snowball. Toss it gently into the air and catch it; if it doesn't break apart, you've achieved the right consistency.

Cut or split the ball in half, then place one half on either side of your plant's roots, molding it back into a ball.

Next, remove the sheet of preserved moss from its water bath and place it face down on your work surface. Place your plant, right-side up, on the sheet, and wrap the sheet around the plant's mud ball-encased roots. Use scissors to trim off any excess moss.

Secure the moss by wrapping waxed thread or fishing line around the ball in all directions, then tie it into place. Avoid using cotton or jute twine, as they will wear out over time.

Water your kokedama immediately by soaking the ball in a bowl of water for 15 minutes, or until it is fully saturated. Squeeze it gently, then place it in a colander in the sink until the water stops draining.

Feel the weight of the soaked ball, and when it feels light by comparison, water the plant again in the same fashion. Depending on the type of plant and the humidity in your home, you may need to water it anywhere from twice a week to once a month.

CARING FOR THE PLANT

Display your kokedama on a decorative plate or suspend it from a plant hook (tie three lengths of waxed thread or fishing line to the string on three sides of the ball, then tie them together at the top to make a hanger).

Grouping several kokedama plants together on a tray makes for an interesting centerpiece. Use your imagination.

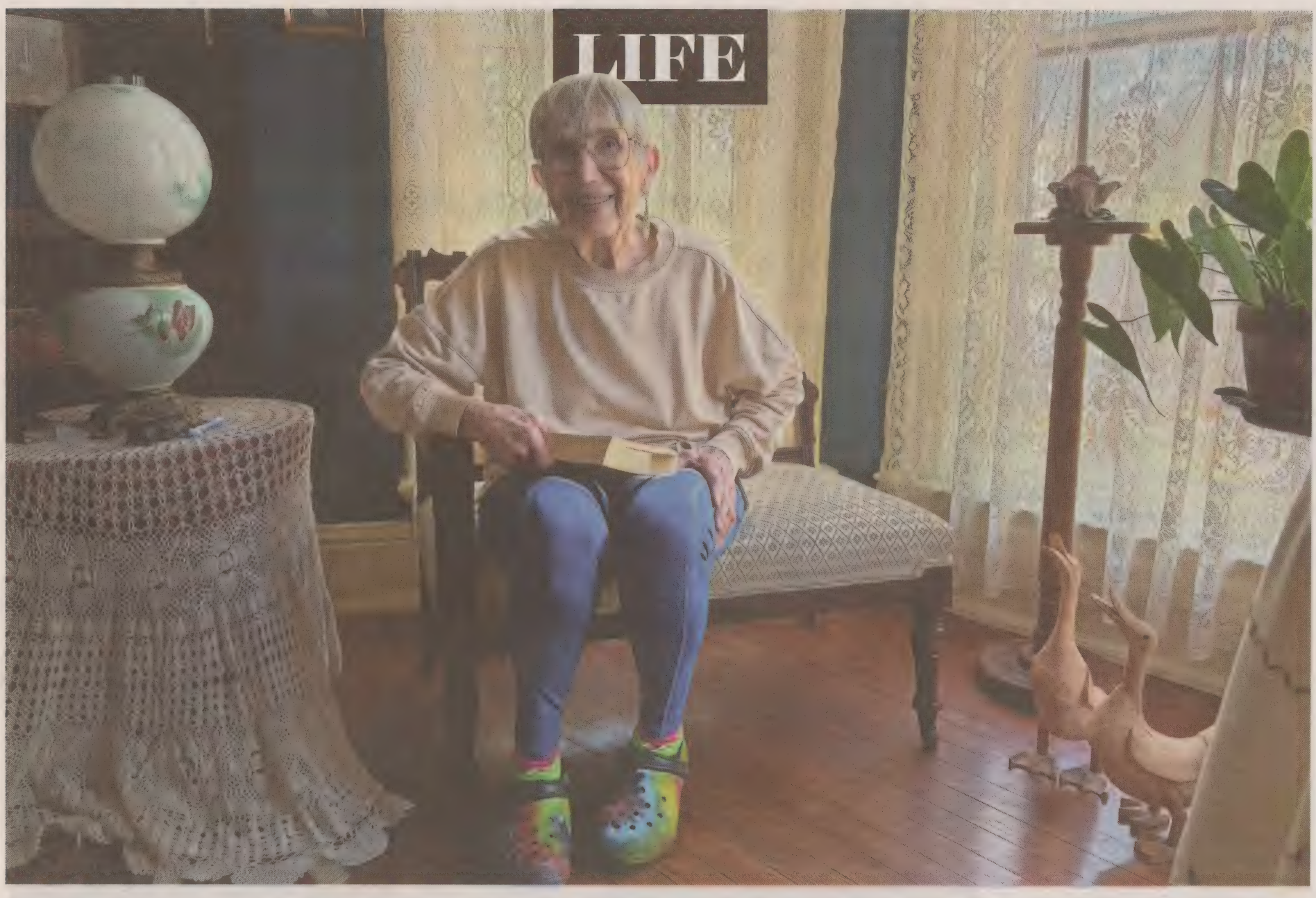
To prevent kokedamas from drying out in arid climates or during winter when indoor heating is in use, consider running a humidifier nearby or placing them in a bathroom where daily showers provide humidity.

Prune the plant by up to half its size every spring to prevent it from outgrowing its kokedama, which would stress and ultimately kill it.

It is possible to replant it into a larger ball, but only once, as a kokedama won't be able to support larger roots.

Fertilize only once a year, in spring, by adding a quarter teaspoon of soluble organic fertilizer to the bowl when watering.

LIFE



At 90, Ednajane "E.J." Truax is still gardening and working out several times a week. *Maggie Penman, Washington Post*

HEALTH

A 'super ager' shares how she thrives at 90

What the super agers had in common was their lifestyle choices. They work out, eat well, and sleep enough. And they're optimistic and social people.

Maggie Penman *Washington Post*

There are a lot of busy people with packed calendars in D.C. Not many of them are 90.

On a Tuesday, I texted retired nurse and nonagenarian Ednajane Truax to see when she might be free to talk. She responded: "Friday after two is OK."

Truax, who is known to friends and neighbors as "E.J.," can often be found on her hands and knees in the dirt, working in the garden at the Sherwood Recreation Center in Northeast Washington. She also has an impressive garden of her own and helps out with other neighbors' gardens. She works out several times a week, sometimes while wearing a shirt that says "You don't stop lifting when you get old — you get old when you stop lifting." She can bench press 55 pounds and leg press 250.

Truax has never married — "just lucky, I guess," she jokes when I ask her about that — but she has remained social her entire life. She volunteers, goes to the gym, throws parties, knows her neighbors and their kids by name. Truax says her secret to thriving as she ages is simple: "Be active."

It turns out that research backs her up.

WHAT 'SUPER AGERS' HAVE IN COMMON

Cardiologist Eric Topol has spent nearly two decades trying to understand why some people continue to thrive into their 80s and 90s while others start to see their health decline. Topol is an expert on healthy aging and the author of the book "Super Agers: An Evidence-Based Approach to Longevity."

Topol suspected the difference between those he calls the "Wellderly" and everybody else would come down to genetics. He identified 1,400 patients who fit the profile he was looking for: older than 85 and free of age-related diseases. Topol and his team at the Scripps Research Institute did whole-genome sequencing for this group of "super agers" to try to figure out whether there was a gene that kept them thriving.

"Interestingly, their genes didn't reveal much," Topol said. "The vast majority of the time, it has nothing to do with their DNA," he said. This was reassuring to Topol himself, who said he has a "terrible family history" of disease.

"It was liberating to find out that maybe I won't follow in my parents' and my aunt and uncles' footsteps," he said.

What the super agers had in common was their lifestyle choices. They work out, specifically, engaging in strength training — proving there may be some wisdom to the phrase on Truax's T-shirt. They eat well, they sleep enough. And they're optimistic people. They have active and meaningful social lives and what Topol calls a "sunny disposition."

"They're so busy you have to make an appointment to find them," Topol said. When he needed to reach out with follow-up questions for his research subjects, they would be dancing, volunteering or meeting up with social groups.

TRAPEZE AT 80

Truax grew up one of six children outside of Pittsburgh. Her optimism and strong work ethic became a means of survival.

"I was born into abject poverty. We lived in a little frame house with no central heat and no air conditioning," Truax said. "My father went into the mines after he lost his business during the Depression, and with six children, he never got out."

She wanted to go to college and knew her family couldn't afford to send her, so she put herself through university and then studied to get a scholarship to go to nursing school.

As a child, birthdays weren't much of a celebration. But now for her milestones, Truax likes to do something big. For her 80th birthday, she went to trapeze school.

She brought her friend Rosemary with her — "I literally had to drag her with me," Truax said. "She's 10 years younger than I am." Her friend worked up the courage to jump first.

Truax said she knew immediately that it wouldn't be something that came easily to her, but she loved the sensation of falling, knowing that she wasn't going to get hurt. She took lessons for a couple of months and was glad she did.

For her 90th birthday, Truax threw a party, her house full of people of all ages, shoulder-to-shoulder mingling and meeting each other. She doesn't have any big plans for her 91st this month, though she has tossed around the idea of taking flying lessons or learning to ride horses someday.

Sapna Budev, who used to live next door, called Truax "the mayor" of the street. She remembered how Truax welcomed her when she was new to the block and has tried to embody that spirit.

"It's really made a difference in how I live my life," Budev said. "I'm an introvert, but I open my doors to people now, because I'm like, 'This is important.' You have to build that community in order to stay connected."

Despite Truax's good health and good humor, she said that "growing old isn't for sissies," paraphrasing a quote often attributed to the actress Bette Davis. She has lost many of her close friends and all of her five siblings.

"That's hard about growing old," Truax said. "Close friends are virtually impossible. Not that I don't have people I know well, but I'm 30 or 40 years older than them."

When asked whether there was anything on her bucket list, Truax paused before saying "not really." Then she added: "Just to take good care of my gardens and be nice to people."

HEALTH & FITNESS

Yes, weighted vests can help amp up your workout

Kenya Hunter *Associated Press*

In the fitness class Jessie Syfko created for a nationwide gym chain, exercisers wear weighted vests that add a challenge to their workouts.

"People start to realize how good it feels to work just a little bit harder and a little bit smarter" without actually changing what they're doing, said Syfko, senior vice president for Life Time gyms.

Weighted vests are increasingly showing up in fitness classes and on jogging tracks, touted by social media influencers as a way to keep bones healthy, improve performance and even accelerate weight loss. They are exactly what they sound like — vests that add resistance to the torso through pockets with removable weights.

But there's a lack of robust research on their benefits, experts say, so it's unclear how much of the hype is justified. And some people, such as seniors or those who are pregnant, should be cautious about using them.

THE POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF WEIGHTED VESTS

When you think about how exercise works, the idea that a weighted vest will help you meet fitness goals like weight loss, muscle growth or preventing bone loss might make sense on the surface. Adding weight to the vest adds resistance to your everyday activities without changing up your patterns.

The vests may, in fact, offer benefits for healthy adults, experts say — although no one should expect transformative or instant results. Jeff Monaco, a certified strength coach who teaches medical fitness at the University of Texas at Austin, said while you may not lose a lot more calories during a weighted vest exercise, resistance from the vest may result in better sports performance over time.

"There are a lot of studies looking at (the weighted vest) from a speed perspective in different athletics, like soccer, with changing direction, agility and speed and so forth," he said.

You'll start to see those benefits by adding about 10% of your body weight to the vest, he said. If you weigh 150 pounds, for example, that would mean adding a total of 15 pounds to the vest.

But the research outside of sports isn't as clear.

One 2020 study from Wake Forest University School of Medicine in North Carolina found that adults between 60 and 85 years old who wore weighted vests at times during the day when they were most active lost about the same amount of weight as those who didn't wear them. They also lost the same amount of bone density, which happens as we age but can be slowed by building muscle.

HOW TO USE WEIGHTED VESTS SAFELY

Experts urge people to use weighted vests safely.

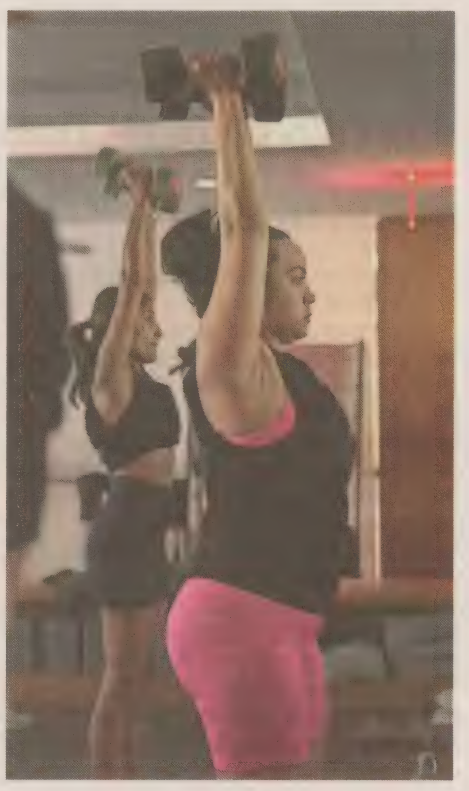
It's best to start out by adding between five to 10 percent of your body weight. Wearing a vest that's too heavy can put unnecessary strain on your joints, back and hips. That extra load can throw off your posture, lead to poor form or even result in stress fractures over time.

Some people should consult with a doctor before they throw on a vest, said Dr. Elizabeth Gardner, a team physician for athletes at Yale University. They include people who are pregnant, suffer from heart and breathing conditions or have back or neck injuries.

You'll have to use the muscles in your abdomen to use a weighted vest effectively, Gardner said, and this can be tougher for those already managing back pain.

Before starting to use a vest, Monaco said it's always helpful to get guidance from someone who has experience with them, "just to make sure that your movements are good, your form is good, that you have enough muscular upper body, muscular strength and endurance to support that during your movements."

But as long as you use it correctly, he said, a weighted vest can be "a good tool to have in your toolbox."



Jannelliz Barragan wears a weighted vest during an MB360 workout class at the Life Time health club in New York in August. *Shelby Lum, Associated Press*

LIFE

FAMILY DENVER

These neurodivergent students are helping each other build more inclusive schools

Building on the visibility that followed rising diagnoses and awareness, the Neurodiversity Alliance says it empowers youth to build more inclusive spaces together.

An attendee wears a shirt with a message at a student workshop during The Neurodiversity Alliance summit on the campus of the University of Denver, Aug. 8, in Denver. *Photos by David Zalubowski, AP*

James Pollard *Associated Press*

Engineering student Tory Ridgeway buried his head.

Just finished with his Lockheed Martin internship and weeks away from his final year at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, the 22-year-old from Maryland found himself overwhelmed by the solidarity he felt at a neurodivergent leadership conference.

Having autism and ADHD, Ridgeway knew there were others like him. But he hadn't realized they shared the same negative self-talk. He said he locked into focus when he heard The Neurodiversity Alliance President Jesse Sanchez describe overcoming feelings of being a "defective toy."

"They talking to me," Ridgeway said. "I felt seen. I felt heard. And I'm gonna try to recreate this feeling wherever I go now."

A peer-to-peer movement of high school and college students is hitting campuses this fall to foster that same sense of liberation among their fellow neurodivergent classmates, whose brains function differently from what is considered typical. Known as The Neurodiversity Alliance, they've increased the number of schools reached from 60 to more than 600 in the past year.

Building on the visibility that followed rising diagnoses and pandemic-era awareness, the alliance says it empowers youth to build more inclusive spaces together. In early August, more than 130 students took up that mantle at a Denver summit. They exchanged recruitment tactics, asked professionals about navigating "neurotypical" work cultures and named their favorite neurodiverse fictional characters. Throughout the week's sessions, many stimmed — making repetitive movements to self-soothe — by building LEGO blocks, braiding yarn or using fidgets.

David Flink, who 27 years ago co-founded what is now The Neurodiversity Alliance as a Brown University student, called them "ambassadors of the possible." Their ranks encompass many distinct learning and developmental differences such as autism, ADHD and dyslexia. Yet they are united by the shared experience of "masking," or hiding traits to gain acceptance in environments designed without them in mind.

"We hear all the time how much we can't talk to each other across difference," Flink said. "When I go to visit one of our clubs, I see the opposite. And it's because of love and curiosity."

Dasha Zubareva, left, of New York City, shares her work with Zala Klemenc of Louisville, Colorado, during a workshop.

Kathryn Tull of Richmond, Virginia, explains her project at a workshop during the summit in Denver.

STUDENTS MENTORING STUDENTS

It often starts in the Art Room. That's the name for wherever high school mentors meet with middle schoolers to reframe their cognitive differences through crafts. This program, called Eye to Eye, connects neurodivergent youth with similar teens who show them success is within reach.

They discuss coping strategies by creating fortune tellers that identify calming activities for specific emotions. A lesson on resiliency involves writing down personal failures on colored paper and then ripping them up to make new art with the fragments.

Myles Cobb, a 19-year-old African American studies major at Washington University in St. Louis, said he didn't want to use extra time initially after his ADHD diagnosis. But Eye to Eye helped him get comfortable with accommodations. He began asking to sit up front and take notes on a laptop so he could focus. He said mentors taught him "it is normal to be different" — and served as examples alongside celebrities with ADHD including Olympian Michael Phelps.

"I'm like, 'They're really doing it. These guys are gonna graduate with flying colors.' And for me, that was enough," Cobb said.

By helping others, mentors often find they are helping themselves heal old wounds. Cobb felt it would be a disservice not to share that feeling once he entered high school.

Katie Gelshenen, 20, considers herself fortunate that her middle school supported her dyslexia. But there wasn't a mentorship program where she could see firsthand that she could thrive. Even when her college Eye to Eye chapter had difficulty getting off the ground, she still felt an urgency to give others what she knows would've benefited her.

"To be able to provide for people who are struggling with the same things that you went through — it's almost like you are providing that support for your younger self at the same time," said Gelshenen, a senior studying political science at The College of the Holy Cross in Massachusetts.

REFRAMING AND TAKING ACTION

Student groups are encouraging classmates to embrace their diagnoses. They see their cognitive styles as ways of being that must be supported — not deficits to be fixed.

Campus organizations are hosting sensory-friendly events and securing physical spaces with quieter sounds and dimmed lighting to reduce overwhelming stimuli. By insisting that systems adapt to meet neurodivergent peoples' needs rather than expect them to assimilate, their goal is to uproot shame and promote inclusion.

Ridgeway's campus doesn't have a Neurodiversity Alliance chapter yet. But, he's noticed quadruple the number of students at the distraction-reduced testing center where he receives up to five hours on finals.

The rising demand prompted a three-day notice requirement for scheduling appointments, according to Ridgeway. He said he's happy to see so many people "not only embracing the fact that they're neurodivergent," but "advocating for themselves."

Amber Wu, 25, found herself putting in the same academic effort as others but receiving worse results in high school. Acting "normal," she said, was emotionally draining. Finally, at age 18, she was diagnosed with autism.

Wu expects she would have felt greater belonging if she had the support then that she is building now. She plans to take on a greater leadership role at Penn State, where she is pursuing a Ph.D. in chemistry and astrobiology. She has been glad to connect with more women and girls through the alliance, considering they often go overlooked due to diagnostic criteria that was historically based on the behavior of men and boys.

FUNDING TRUE YOUTH LEADERSHIP

Many folks profess to care about people who are neurodivergent, Flink said, but there has never been a meaningful amount of money behind those statements.

The disability rights space overall gets just one penny for every $10 granted in the United States, according to a 2023 Disability & Philanthropy Forum report. Sanchez said the burden is falling even more so on students to stand in the gap.

"We're building something stronger from the ground up," he said.

Their grassroots efforts got a tune-up when Flink won a $300,000 grant in May from The Elevate Prize Foundation to reach a wider audience.

FAMILY

Things to do when a friend won't stop complaining

Lesley Alderman *for Washington Post*

There's complaining. And then there's complaining.

In its more benign form, complaining between friends can feel beneficial. Light grousing about a mutual foe, for example, can cultivate camaraderie. Grumbling about everyday frustrations such as bad weather, traffic jams or housing costs can be cathartic and validate feelings. What's more, venting to an empathic listener can make you feel supported.

Complaining can turn toxic, though, when it's relentless, humorless and/or mean-spirited Then it can be a downer and alienate weary listeners. When the tone of the complaints is angry or self-pitying, you can start to feel resentful and burdened. Complaining also can become contagious.

When a friend turns into an irritating grumbler, you are faced with a dilemma. Do you avoid the person and weaken the friendship or try to confront their behavior? Your strategy depends in part on how important the relationship is to you.

THINK CONTEXT

If the complaining seems new or more intense or about numerous things, ask yourself what may be going on in your friend's life. Are they struggling to find a job, feuding with a relative or dealing with a health issue?

While this doesn't make the complaining less annoying, it may help you feel more sympathetic.

People who are feeling depressed by a life challenge may complain about random problems rather than the main source of their frustration — it's often easier to complain than to express feelings of vulnerability. They may be struggling with a focus on the not-so-great aspects of life, which is associated with stress, depression and anxiety.

If this sounds like your friend, you might offer kind words such as, "Sounds like things have been exasperating lately. What's bugging you most?" This show of support may soften their frustration and provide them with the sympathy they were seeking.

BE BORING

When your friend has turned into a self-absorbed malcontent, be a less good listener. They might be turning to you repeatedly because you're empathetic and ask caring questions. If that's the case, change your behavior.

When they call to tell you the same things again, such as: "I'm so tired. I just had to work 10 hours ... and so and so is such a jerk ...," listen and say, "That's rough." And leave it there. Or say: "That sounds hard." And change the subject.

RECOMMEND PROFESSIONAL HELP

Acknowledge that their situation is challenging and then suggest that they would benefit from the guidance of a real pro.

If it's a personal issue (like a difficult marriage), for example, explain that a therapist might be able to offer better support. If it's a work issue (like a stalled job hunt), point out that a career coach could help. If it's a legal issue, suggest talking with a lawyer.

By doing this, you are empathizing with their plight, yet also subtly indicating that you are reaching your limit and nudging them to be more proactive.

BE DIRECT

If the relationship is important to you, be direct. Some people have no idea how much they are complaining or how irritating it is to listen to them. Say something like, "Hey, are you aware you've been venting a lot lately?"

If they are chronically groaning about, say, their workload, or their fatigue, simply ask, in the nicest, most inquisitive tone, "Why are you telling me this?"

This forces the person to examine the reasons for their complaining, said Robin Kowalski, a professor of psychology at Clemson University, who has written extensively about the psychology of complaining. "They may initially be offended by the question, but it does make them examine why they're telling you their problems," she said.

PULL BACK

You can also just spend less time with them. If you've tried subtle hints or direct feedback and nothing is changing, then be less available or choose to see them in groups. Some people are just complainers; it's part of their character.

LIFE

Why does your pet lick so much, and is it safe?

Adobe Stock images

***Ask a vet:** For healthy adults, the risk of infection from being licked by a pet is negligible. But when dogs and cats lick people with weak immune systems, serious infections can follow.*

Jane Sykes *Washington Post*

Dogs and cats may lick humans to show empathy or affection — or simply to get your attention. For healthy adults, the risk of illness after being licked by a pet that receives regular veterinary care is negligible. But when dogs and cats lick people with weak immune systems, serious infections can follow. Here's what to know about why pets do this, and when you should be concerned.

Why do dogs and cats lick people?

More than 60% of U.S. households include a pet, for good reason: pet ownership reduces loneliness, depression and anxiety. Rustin Moore, dean of the veterinary school at Ohio State University and author of an upcoming book on the human-animal bond, says this bond "has a profound power to heal, comfort and connect us; it is one of the most underutilized tools for improving human well-being." Animal-assisted therapy is increasingly used in schools, nursing homes, hospices, prisons and hospitals, with benefits that include reduced pain perception, more rapid recovery from surgery, and improved emotional skills in children with disorders such as autism.

Licking is a common behavior in pets. In a 2020 study from Belgium, hand-licking by dogs was reported by 86% of owners — and face-licking by 50% of owners. In a U.K. study, more than 50% of people said their dogs licked visitors, too.

Animals lick other animals for many reasons. New moms lick their babies to clean and protect them (saliva has certain antibacterial properties, which also could explain why animals lick their wounds). Animals also lick one another during "social grooming," a bonding behavior that is particularly common in cats. A dog may lick humans to show empathy. And — given the opportunity — pets will meticulously lick skin that has traces of food or salty sweat on it.

When it's reinforced by positive social interactions (such as petting and a soothing voice), licking also can be a way to get attention. Genetics, other environmental influences, and age also influence licking behavior — in the U.K. study, younger dogs were more likely to lick people than older dogs.

Are there germs in my pet's saliva?

In short, yes. Despite saliva's antibacterial effects, a pet's mouth harbors billions of bacteria just waiting to infect humans when introduced into open wounds. Within this "bacterial soup" are two organisms with tongue-twisting names and a special ability to cause severe human disease: Capnocytophaga canimorsus), a long, rod-shaped bug; and Pasteurella multocida, a tiny oval-shaped bug. Although I wish these organisms had nicknames, they don't — so I'll just call them Capnocytophaga and Pasteurella here.

If you own a dog or cat, you probably live with these germs — they're found in most healthy dogs and cats. Capnocytophaga inhabits the mouth of more than 70% of dogs and 55% of cats, whereas Pasteurella is found in more than 50% of dogs and more than 70% of cats.

Why do doctors worry about these two bugs?

Although rare, Capnocytophaga infections are concerning, because they progress rapidly, and up to one-third of infections can be fatal. Within just a few days of a lick or bite, Capnocytophaga can multiply in your blood and cause critical organs to fail. These infections are also hard to diagnose, because Capnocytophaga grows slowly in the laboratory. The most severe form of infection — a gruesome gangrenous skin condition known as purpura fulminans — has a mortality rate of 60%. Survivors often face amputation of fingers, toes or limbs.

Pasteurella infections are more common, because it's frequently involved in bite wound infections (think of it as the common cat bite bug). Less often, serious Pasteurella infections follow licking, especially in babies or people that allow pets to lick open wounds or medical devices. With more animal ownership and advancements in human medical therapy, reports of Pasteurella infections of knee and hip replacements, peritoneal dialysis systems and long-term vascular access devices are increasing. "We have seen serious infections that arose after cats — especially kittens — chewed on and contaminated dialysis equipment," says Natascha Tuznik, an infectious-disease physician at the University of California-Davis. "Such equipment should be kept away from pets."

Licking is a common behavior in pets. In a 2020 study from Belgium, hand-licking by dogs was reported by 86% of owners — and face-licking by 50% of owners.

How often does licking lead to serious infections?

While bacteria like Pasteurella and Capnocytophaga are very common in your pet's saliva, it's incredibly rare for people to get sick after being licked. Every year, millions of bloodstream infections occur in North America and Europe, but fewer than 600 Capnocytophaga infections and just 20 cases of purpura fulminans have ever been reported.

Infections from licking are most likely to occur in infants, pregnant people, people over 50, or people with conditions such as AIDS, cancer, alcoholism, diabetes or organ transplants. Tuznik notes that "people who lack a functioning spleen are particularly susceptible to Capnocytophaga infections and are specifically advised to avoid being licked by pets."

How can I reduce the chance of infection from licking?

Wash your skin with soap and water after being licked. Avoid sharing food dishes and utensils with your pet (no more fork feeding!). Prevent pets from licking open wounds or medical devices. And people in high-risk groups should limit contact to snuggles instead of smooches. If you (or people you care for) have a weak immune system and illness develops, tell your health care provider about any known animal contact.

When doctors know which bacteria to suspect, the result is earlier treatment, faster recovery and fewer complications overall.

I'm immunocompromised. Should I give up my pet?

No! Remember, pet ownership can ease the emotional burdens often experienced by people with chronic illnesses. Even if your pet licks you, the chance of infection is minuscule.

Talk to your doctor and veterinarian about the best ways to minimize the risk based on your specific health condition or life stage while keeping dogs and cats by your side.

Jane Sykes is a professor of Veterinary Medicine at the University of California-Davis.

ANIMALS

Make an emergency plan for your pet before a disaster hits

American Kennel Club

It can be hard to fathom the worst happening. As much as we don't want to think about experiencing a natural disaster, it's important to have a plan in place if your area experiences flooding. During an emergency evacuation, there won't be time to think.

The American Kennel Club suggests the following tips for staying prepared.

Track weather alerts: As much as possible, stay informed of hazardous flooding that may move into your area. Evacuate if you are told to do so and bring your pet with you. Understand the different alerts issued by the National Weather Service and respond accordingly.

Have a "go bag": Ahead of any natural disaster, pack an emergency "go bag" for your dog to take with you. This bag should contain essentials that you and your dog will need while away from home. Consider food bowls, your pup's collar and leash, a first aid kit, dog food and water, a collapsible carrier or crate, poop bags, pee pads, and cleanup supplies. Additionally, you could include stress-relief items, like an anxiety vest or your dog's favorite blanket or toy.

Keep pet documents ready: Your go bag should also include your pet's important documents including your dog's identification, registration, a photo of your dog and proof of ownership, vaccination records, medications and prescriptions. If your pet is microchipped, ensure their records are up to date. To learn more about pet microchipping, visit AKC Reunite.

Establish a safe place: If you are home, move inside and to the highest possible floor of your house, and bring inside any dog toys or equipment that may be swept away. If you are told to evacuate, figure out where you can take your dog if you must evacuate quickly. It could be a friend's home, a pet-friendly hotel, boarding kennel or animal shelter – just so long as it's located outside the impacted area. Try and have several options in case your plans quickly change.

Know your dog's capacity: It's important to keep in mind whether your dog can physically move to higher ground. If you have a senior pup or a dog that has trouble going up stairs or getting into the back of the car to travel, consider purchasing a ramp or dog stairs.

Set up a buddy system: In your neighborhood, create a buddy system. Should a flash flood hit while you're away from home, arrange with a neighbor to evacuate your pet. Show them where your dog's emergency bag is, determine a meeting spot, and keep your neighbor's contact info on hand should you need it.

After the flood. Like humans, dogs can find emergency evacuations jarring and traumatic. When you return home, pay close attention to how your pup is settling back in, and watch for any anxious or defensive behavior. You can always consult your vet or an animal behaviorist if you notice changes. It's also a good idea to check your yard for any damage that could be hazardous to your dog.

Remember, if you are stressed, your dog is stressed too. As difficult as it might be, try to remain steady and stick to your established emergency plan.

For more information, go to akc.org.

LIFE

BRIGHT SIDE

This firefighter overcame his fear of heights as millions cheered him on

Texas firefighter Avion Anderson was screaming in panic during a simulated rescue. But with training he overcame his fear of heights — and went viral.

Maggie Penman *Washington Post*

Avion Anderson knew he would have to face his fear of heights when he became a firefighter.

Anderson had no idea he would do it — screaming in terror at the top of his lungs — while millions of people watched him day after day on TikTok.

Some people judged him, but many encouraged him to persevere as he became an overnight celebrity when his fellow firefighter posted videos of him online.

"It honestly did help me push past fears," said Anderson, 27, who for the past year has worked full time at the Sheldon Community Fire & Rescue in Houston but is still completing his training.

The fire department requires rope rescue certification for all firefighters in the event someone in distress needs to be lowered from a tall building using a stokes basket — a rescue device that is like a stretcher with restraints.

"I had that passion to basically do whatever I had to do to help somebody in need," Anderson said, explaining why he was ready to get his certification despite his anxiety around heights.

Anderson's fellow firefighter Alexander Mulhern, 24, knew rope rescue training would be challenging for Anderson, so he had an idea. He decided to take videos of Anderson lowering himself with the rope and also playing a victim in a stokes basket so Anderson could see his progress over the week-long training.

In previous trainings, Mulhern said, he'd noticed that it helped Anderson to go over the footage with trainers.

"I wanted to post all four videos to show the world what we have to go through as firemen — and show them that we're human and we have the same amount of fear as everybody else," Mulhern said.

The world saw the unvarnished truth of that.

In the first video, taken on Sept. 15, Anderson begins to lower himself and then starts to scream in fear. He collects himself, says "OK, OK," but continues to yell.

In the background you can hear his fellow firefighters cheering him on and encouraging him, offering tips and pointers. After lowering himself just about foot or so he looks up at the camera and says "It's good now, I can come up?" which gets a big laugh from the rest of the crew.

The comments on the TikTok video range from sweet and encouraging to jokey, with some suggestions that perhaps he should be a dispatcher rather than a rescuer. "Respectfully don't send him to help no one," one person wrote.

Firefighter Avion Anderson has always been afraid of heights — but he had to overcome that in a recent training. *Sheldon Community Fire & Rescue*

Others had his back: "Leave him alone y'all he's trying!!"

By Day 2, Anderson is immobilized in a stokes basket playing the victim so the other trainees can practice lowering him down to safety. One commenter watched his terror and wrote, "he did NOT volunteer for this," but Anderson said he did.

"I'm one of those people that, in order for me to try to get over fears or conquer stuff like that, I try to just go after it head on," Anderson said.

About 5.5 million people watched the TikTok video and thousands commented. Anderson was astounded.

"I definitely didn't expect it to blow up or for me to get the amount of positive feedback that I did get," Anderson said.

In the third video, Anderson is back in the basket — and yelling that he's afraid he might lose control of his bowels.

"I trust y'all," he says.

"You're doing good!" the other firefighters yell back.

The caption is just as encouraging — and addresses some of the public's comments that Anderson is in the wrong job.

"Firefighter Anderson has a major fear of heights and that's okay! We are so proud of him for still getting harnessed up and facing his fears!" it reads. "Rope rescue is a very small part of what we do, I can assure everyone he is an amazing Fireman.....on ground level."

By Day 4, Anderson is almost unrecognizable. Calmly lowering himself down the side of a building, fully letting go of the rope as the other firefighters yell encouragement. One commenter said, "so emotional seeing our baby graduate and not scream 1 time."

In a response video, one TikToker said: "Firefighter Anderson completed his training today and he didn't scream once! We're all so proud of him," adding, "If I'm ever in a fire I want you there."

Anderson said many commenters were inspired to get outside their own comfort zones, with one saying "firefighter Anderson has inspired me to still do things even if they make me scared out of my mind."

Another said: "I know there were some comments on other videos saying to put him behind a desk, but this is the literal definition of courage in the face of fear. And he will be sympathetic to anyone he has to place in that situation because he knows how scary it is."

Anderson said he hopes that he and the other firefighters can continue to post videos of their training to keep the inspiration going.

"Some people might just see a funny viral clip," Anderson said. "But I'm hoping that they see, like Mulhern said, firefighters are human, we're goofy, we're supportive, and we're a family. So if the video made somebody smile, then that's a win for all of us, not just me."

Mulhern added that his fellow firefighters — like millions of people on social media — are proud of Anderson for overcoming his fear.

"It's humans sharing our journeys with each other," a commenter wrote on the final video, "and it's so beautiful."

BRIGHT SIDE

Softball player, 80, goes viral for heartfelt message to his rec team

Kyle Melnick *Washington Post*

Nelson Bradbury was struggling to sleep, nervous about an important softball game. So the 80-year-old got up to use the bathroom and type a rallying text to his team on his iPad around 2:30 a.m.

"I have been laying in bed for the past half hour thinking about tonight's game and thinking about the great bunch of guys I am allowed to play with," he wrote to his teammates, all of whom are younger than him, some by many decades. "I really appreciate the way you guys treat me as an equal and not just an old fart. ... It's all of you who keep me going and give me the reason to get out of bed in the morning."

He continued writing that he wasn't sure if he'd play another year in the league, and made a joke that nothing is certain at his age.

"I don't buy GREEN bananas any more," Bradbury wrote. "But I do know, this will be the year of ball play I will remember. All because of 14 great people."

The wife of one of Bradbury's adult softball league teammates was so touched by the text, she posted a photo of the message on TikTok, and soon, Bradbury had millions of fans.

Bradbury didn't know what TikTok was. But the photo prompted thousands of strangers who saw his text to begin following his team's results in a slow-pitch league in Canada's Newfoundland and Labrador province. Bradbury's text even inspired the squad's new nickname: the Green Bananas.

Bradbury told the Washington Post that being an internet celebrity is "no big deal."

Nelson Bradbury said he stays in shape by playing softball, walking and lifting light weights. *Jill Piers*

All he did was tell his teammates how he felt.

"Where (else) do you go where you're going to be part of a group that's going to treat you as an equal, that's going to respect you, that's going to make a joke with you?

"I mean, other than that, I'd be home sitting on the chesterfield, doing what, you know? Getting dead," Bradbury said, using the term chesterfield for sofa.

Bradbury, a retired accountant, pitched and played catcher in fast-pitch softball leagues when he was in his 20s and early 30s before taking a break from the sport to focus on raising his three children, Peter, Keith and Jill.

About 11 years ago, Bradbury was at a hospital with his wife as she was getting treatment for breast cancer, when he saw a sign for a local softball league for men 35 years and older.

"I'll go back (to) playing ball," he recalled telling his wife, Margaret.

Margaret joked that he was a fool, Bradbury said, but he stuck to his word. While Bradbury played catcher and could bat, he said, some players griped about having one of the league's handful of players older than 65 on their team.

Bradbury returned every year, staying in shape by lifting light weights, going to batting practice and walking with Margaret, who ended up beating cancer.

When Al Heath, the league's president, first played with Bradbury in 2018, he was impressed by the veteran's energy and easy-going sense of humor. Heath has tried to add Bradbury to his team every year since, including this season, which began in May.

Bradbury, who wears a No. 17 blue-and-orange jersey, only plays catcher because his teammates worry he'll get injured at another position. Bradbury bats three or four times per game — he's hitting around .570 this season — and after games, he and his teammates grab beer together. Some games start at 9:30 p.m., forcing Bradbury to stay up past his usual 11 p.m. bedtime.

Before games, Bradbury said he tells his teammates to "play it up for the old guy." They encourage him, too. When Bradbury recently tripped running to first base, his teammates called the move his "slide."

"He's the one that's motivating everybody to keep going and win," said Heath, 55.

On Sept. 9, Bradbury said he struggled to sleep due to the pressure he felt to perform for his teammates that night. Feeling sentimental, he texted the group chat, though he started with some humor.

"Well guys, just up to do my middle of the night pee," he began.

One teammate replied: "Glad to have ya you old fart!"

Another wrote: "Your competitiveness and passion for the game is 2nd to none and seeing that inspires everyone on this team and any team who is lucky enough to have you."

Sam Evans, whose husband, Dan, is on Bradbury's team, said she cried when she read Bradbury's text. After Evans posted a photo of the message on TikTok, Bradbury called his daughter, Jill Piers, 54, with a question: "Do you know what TikTok is?"

Evans's TikTok has received more than 15 million views, and subsequent TikToks she made about games have tens of thousands of views as people follow the squad's progress.

The team ordered shirts that say "I don't buy green bananas anymore."

Bradbury is now focused on winning the league championship. His team is currently in the semifinals, and he scouted competition at the ballfield during his 59th wedding anniversary this month.

Regardless of the results, Bradbury said he's "a winner because I got a good bunch of guys that I play with." Bradbury said he's going to hang a team photo on his home office wall.

"I'm going to see it every morning, every day of the winter and the spring before next season comes," Bradbury said, "and hope to be able to get to play with all of them again."

LIFE

RELIGION

Will my dog be in heaven? Why grieving pet owners turn to religious groups.

Americans are increasingly reexamining the relationship between humans and the natural world, and changing their religious and spiritual beliefs and practices.

Michelle Boorstein *Washington Post*

Rabbi Andrea Frank officiates a service for Chance, Nancy and Ken Skor's dog, at Hartsdale Pet Cemetery & Crematory in Hartsdale, New York. *Paola Chapdelaine, for Washington Post*

When her Old English bulldog, Lucy, contracted lymphoma and died last year, Ingrid Nelson was rocked by grief. The dog was a deep source of support for Nelson, a single mom. "She was my soul dog."

Nelson's grief was compounded by responses she got to her sadness: Animals don't even have souls, a neighbor said. A colleague told her animals don't go to heaven, and she'd never see Lucy again.

Nelson wanted answers to these theological and spiritual questions from her Christian faith, but she was wary of mentioning them at the Congregational church she attends in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Even though the denomination is liberal, she worried someone at the church would repeat the same unsympathetic doctrine. Instead, she said, "I internalized and prayed on it."

And she went to see an animal chaplain.

Animal chaplains, who offer spiritual care for people with pets, for people who work with animals and for animals themselves, is just one example of how Americans are increasingly re-examining the relationship between humans and the natural world, and in the process changing their religious and spiritual beliefs and practices.

Nelson met twice at a coffee shop with the Rev. Ginny Mikita, an ordained interfaith minister who runs a pet grief support group. Nelson wanted to know: How does God see nonhuman animals? She told Mikita about her feeling that her connection with Lucy contained mutual consciousness — even holiness.

What do you believe, Mikita recalls asking Nelson. How do you imagine heaven?

"This is really about, for a lot of people, deeply thinking about these issues," Mikita said. "What do I believe and why?"

The spiritual counsel from Mikita helped lift the "horrible gray cloud" of Lucy's death. It led Nelson to delve into scriptural references to animals: In Genesis, God calls the creation of animals "good." In the story of Noah, God makes a covenant with "every living creature." God personally feeds animals in the Book of Psalms.

"Ultimately, what was my relationship with Lucy? It was love. There was a love, there was a bond. And what is God? God is love," Nelson said. "What I believe is we're all part of God's creation. And in some way, shape or form we will all be reunited again."

THE RISE OF "ANIMAL THEOLOGY"

Nelson's experience is a small window into the growing sphere of faith-based support for people grieving animals. Congregations and other spiritual and religious groups are increasingly offering grief programs for people who lost pets. Major theological groups such as the American Academy of Religion and the Society for Biblical Studies now have units devoted to "animal theology" research. That realm includes religious textual references and rituals about bonds between humans and animals, and the presence of religious-like behavior in animals, such as mourning rituals.

The percent of Americans who say their pets are "part of their family" has jumped in the past two decades from about 80% to 97%, Pew Research found. Pew found that 51% of pet owners said their animal was as much a family member as a human.

Pet ownership surged during the pandemic, and homebound people grew deeply close to their companion animals. New research has expanded what's known about animals' capacity for empathy and wonder — attributes of spiritual experience. The rise in faith-based pet grief support also reflects that many Americans are increasingly exploring religion and spirituality focused more on nature as a whole and less on the idea of humans at the center.

"I see a lot of movement" in the organized religious world about nonhuman life, said the Rev. Sarah Bowen, an author who co-founded the Compassion Consortium, which offers resources about animals and spirituality and houses a chaplaincy training program. "We see many traditional faith groups making statements that are earth-based, and we can slip animals into there if we raise that question."

A major development was "Laudato Si," Pope Francis's historic 2015 teaching document urging care for the environment. In it he wrote that "every act of cruelty towards any creature is 'contrary to human dignity,'" and, about the afterlife: "Eternal life will be a shared experience of awe, in which each creature, resplendently transfigured, will take its rightful place."

In 2015, several leaders with the conservative Southern Baptist Convention and with the Humane Society of the United States (now called Humane World for Animals) helped launch a petition called "Every Living Thing" meant to "reclaim that evangelical tradition of understanding animals as an important part of God's creation," said Karen Swallow Prior, a Christian author who was part of the petition campaign and was at the time a member of the Humane Society's now-defunct Faith Advisory Council.

The petition, with over 1,300 signatures, said that although humans "have greater worth" than other animals, humans cannot treat them as objects or be cruel them.

The effort fizzled out. In 2017, the SBC posted a video defending the dignity of animals, but it soon took down the video and apologized because it mentioned animal life as sacred in the same sentence as fetal life.

"As modern Americans we are deeply influenced by utilitarianism," Prior said. "We measure worth according to usefulness. That is a philosophy more than theology."

"ANIMALS ARE PURE LOVE"

Even secular groups are responding to the evolving needs of religious people and their pets.

Raised Catholic, Ed Pessalano, a 42-year-old Brooklyn hotel security guard, has dabbled in recent years with Baptist churches and watches televangelists like Joel Osteen and Charles Stanley. But when his 14-year-old gray and white cat, Nugget, died in July, he didn't seek help from traditional religious sources.

He typed into Google: "Do pets go to heaven?" The results led to a Christian grief curriculum prepared by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

"Catholics, Baptists — they're focused on people. But when you look at the Bible, the entire thing is scattered with animals, animals have the same soul," he said. Losing Nugget was "like losing a human being, because animals are pure love."

He was blown away by PETA's grief program, which has daily devotionals, reflections and journaling prompts for five weeks. "When I found this program ... it was so beautiful," he said.

The prompt on the third day asked: "How does reflecting on the reality of Heaven help you with the pain?" Pessalano's response: "I imagine your new life to be free of old age and pain, and my Lord will hold you until we're reunited again."

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LIFE

Albania is Europe's best-kept secret for Americans

The Albanian Riviera is at the meeting point of the Adriatic and Ionian Seas, with dramatic mountains lining the coast. The beaches here are varied and beautiful. *Photos by Rei Gjeci*

***Albania has it all:** beaches, mountains, picturesque historic towns and a lively capital city, all at affordable prices and with a family-friendly atmosphere.*

Amanda Luhn *Food Drink Life*

Approximately 11.7 million tourists visited Albania in 2024, according to the government's official Institute of Statistics. Most visitors come from nearby countries like Kosovo and Italy, while only 306,000 people vacation from the Americas. While Europeans are waking up to the charms of this Mediterranean country, it is still a bit of a hidden gem for Americans.

Looking for the perfect dupe for Greece's beaches at half the price? Craving great pizza and pasta without the crowds of Rome? Albania has it all: beaches, mountains, picturesque historic towns and a lively capital city, all at affordable prices and with a family-friendly atmosphere.

Albania is mostly mountainous, with the Albanian Alps in the north, pictured, and several Balkan mountain ranges in the central and southern parts of the country.

ALBANIA'S UNIQUE COMMUNIST HISTORY

Part of the reason for Albania's unfamiliarity to Americans is its recent Cold War history of isolation. From the end of World War II until 1992, Albania was dominated by the Communist Party and, in particular, one man named Enver Hoxha.

Hoxha built an estimated 30,000 concrete bunkers around the country to protect against possible invasions. Foreign relations were halted even with fellow communist countries. These bunkers are popular tourist attractions today. Party control did not extend long past Hoxha's death in 1985.

ALBANIA'S MOVE TO EMBRACE TOURISM

Since the first free elections in 1992, Albania has moved toward becoming part of the EU community and modernizing its country. Tourism has been vital in the economy's growth, with 1 in 5 jobs supported by tourism, according to the World Travel & Tourism Council in 2024. Rural development and agritourism are a particular focus of the government.

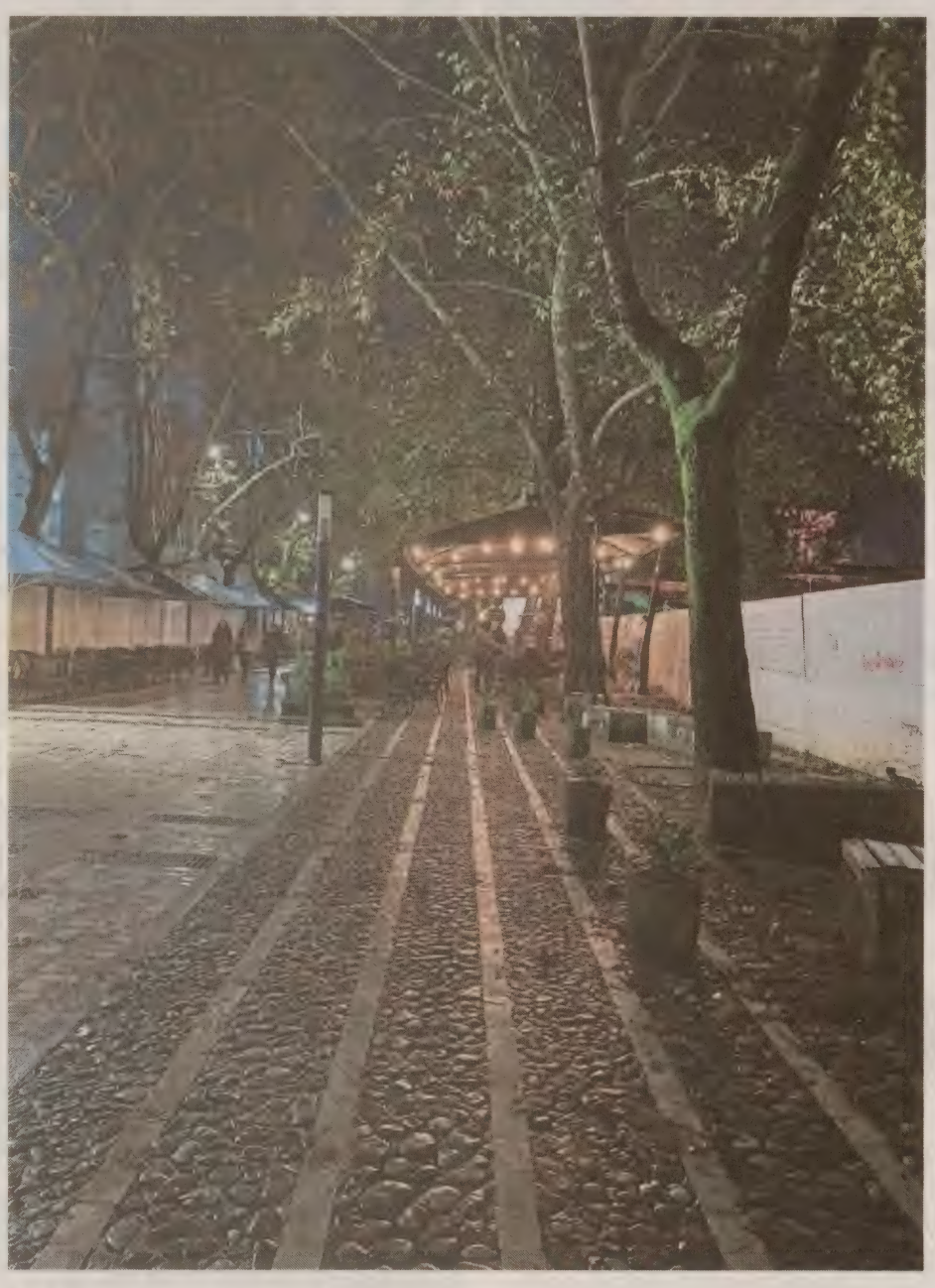
While Albania's post-communist economic recovery has been problematic for its citizens, its lower cost of living makes it attractive for tourists. Restaurant prices are nearly 30% lower in Albania than in Italy and 24% lower than in Greece.

English is taught in primary and secondary schools and is widely spoken by younger generations. Most street signs now feature both Albanian and English translations. Albanians are particularly welcoming to Americans as they appreciate the NATO support during the Kosovo War.

TIRANA

The capital city of Tirana is the cultural and financial hub of the country. With nearly a million people in the municipal area, it is by far the biggest urban area.

Start your visit in Skanderbeg Square, the city's central plaza named for its national hero. The large 430,556-square-foot plaza is home to a statue of Skanderbeg on horseback and the historic Et'hem Bey Mosque, one of the few religious buildings in the country to survive the communist purge. The square also includes the historic Clock Tower, the National Opera, the National History Museum, the National Library, the Bank of Albania, several government ministry buildings and a handful of cafes overlooking the square.



Many tourist attractions in Tirana, Albania's capital, highlight its communist past.

Many of the tourist attractions in the city highlight its communist past, especially Bunk'Art 1 and Bunk'Art 2, two museums housed in sprawling underground bunkers built for party officials. Bunk'Art 2 is located near Skanderbeg Square, while Bunk'Art 1 is just outside the city center, next to the Dajti Ekspres, the longest cable car in the Balkans. The cable car has sweeping views of Tirana and Dajti National Park, and the top has activities like hiking trails, ziplines, horseback riding and mountainside dining.

Another fascinating communist museum is the House of Leaves, a museum located in the former headquarters of the secret police and dedicated to surveillance techniques used during Hoxha's dictatorship. You can also walk by his former residence in the Blloku neighborhood of the city, once the area where the party elite lived, but now full of trendy restaurants and nightclubs. This is a popular area for tourists to stay, with several apartment rentals and small hotels.

THE MOUNTAINS

Albania is mostly mountainous, with the Albanian Alps in the north and several Balkan mountain ranges in the central and southern parts of the country. Two historic towns, Gjirokaster and Berat, sit in southern mountain ranges and are both UNESCO World Heritage Sites known for their traditional stone houses, Ottoman architecture, winding cobblestone streets and large castles. Also in the southern mountains is the Blue Eye, a famous natural spring with vividly clear blue water.

The Albanian Alps in the north, also called the Accursed Mountains, are the tallest in the country and a top trekking destination. The Valbona-to-Theth hike is a popular route, taking hikers over a high mountain pass between two remote villages. It's a full-day hike with tremendous views and cozy guesthouses offering hot meals and showers at the end. The journey to Valbona is an adventure by itself as it includes a ferry ride through a stunning mountain lake.

THE ALBANIAN RIVIERA

The Albanian Riviera has long been popular with tourists from Italy and neighboring Balkan countries. As the meeting point of the Adriatic and Ionian Seas and with dramatic mountains lining the coast, the beaches here are varied and beautiful.

Ksamil, by the border with Greece, has long been a popular destination, as evidenced by the Iron Age, Greek, Roman and Byzantine structures found in the adjacent Butrint Archeological Park. Nearby, Sarande is one of the liveliest towns on the coast, with lots of high-rises, a busy harbor full of yachts and a quick ferry to Corfu for day trippers.

For a quieter vibe, head north along the coastal road from Sarande to Vlore. This stretch is the heart of the Albanian Riviera. The curving road along the coastline is a magnificent drive reminiscent of California's Highway 1. Towns like Himare and Dhermi are favorites for their laid-back charm, but you'll also find small villages and private beach resorts.

Vlore has a stunning setting on a massive bay and faces the undeveloped Karaburun Peninsula, where you can take boat tours to small coves and hidden beaches. Hotels and houses stretch around the bay and into smaller nearby towns. Just offshore, Sazan Island guards the entrance to the bay. Once a military base, the island was recently sold to Jared Kushner and Ivanka Trump for $1.4 billion to develop into a luxury resort.

ALBANIA SHOULD BE YOUR NEXT FAMILY GETAWAY

Albania may still be under the radar for many American travelers, but it won't stay that way for long. With its mix of beaches, mountains, fascinating history and delicious food, this affordable and welcoming country packs in far more than you'd expect. Whether you're chasing views in the Alps or sunsets on the coast, Albania delivers a great vacation with affordable prices and a family-friendly atmosphere.

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ight. *Lindsey Wasson, Associated Press*

than where it's been, and our floor's been raised," said first baseman Spencer Torkelson. "We don't know what our ceiling is. We're not satisfied making it to Game 5 of the Division Series. We want more."

Skubal said he expects the World Series to be the standard by which success is measured, but he was proud of what this team accomplished.

"We played really good baseball. We were a really good baseball team. We just played probably the best win-or-go-home game of all time, in the history of the game, you know?" Skubal said. "Obviously, we didn't accomplish the ultimate goal — the trophy — but there's a lot to be proud of and to build on. There were guys who pitched really big innings for us tonight who were in Double-A this year. That motivates me to try to be an even better version of myself, so that next year when we add all these pieces together, it's a really, really good team and we can do something special."

Had the Tigers won, they would caught a late flight to Toronto and arrived jet-lagged and exhausted for a best-of-7 series with a depleted pitching staff against the top-seeded Toronto Blue Jays.

And who knows? They might have won.

"That's baseball. It's the game. It's tough. I think it's meant to sting. It's meant to hurt," Skubal said. "It'll hurt for a little bit, and then you've got to rechannel that into motivation so you never want to feel that again. It's tough, but I think the guys in this room will use it the right way. I know I will. That's what motivates me — trying to win a World Series, being on a team that's still playing late into October. That's the motivation for me. I just want to win. We fell short this year, but we'll be back. I'm confident in that."

ı inning for Seattle

go out there and play and trying to get the win."

The Mariners left 12 runners on base and managed to advance to the ALCS for the first time since 2001. Next up is a matchup with the AL East champion Blue Jays, beginning on tonight at Toronto.

"Just an incredible ballgame from top to bottom," Mariners manager Dan Wilson said.

Luis Castillo pitched 1⅓ innings for the win in his first major league relief appearance. Logan Gilbert, another member of Seattle's rotation, worked two scoreless innings in his first relief outing since his college days at Stetson University in 2017.

"It was such a tough night," Seattle catcher Cal Raleigh said. "Everyone put their other stuff side and did everything for the team, including Logan and Luis."

Detroit wasted a stellar performance by Tarik Skubal, who struck out 13 while pitching six innings of one-run ball. The Tigers went 1 for 9 with runners in scoring position and left 10 on base.

"We had an incredible game today that — unfortunately, somebody had to lose,

SEE DETROIT TIGERS, B2

NFL

Grueling stretch will show plenty about Lions' chances this year

Detroit travels to Kansas City in featured matchup tonight.

Benjamin Raven *braven@mlive.com*

ALLEN PARK — The Detroit Lions are in a great spot through five games.

Coach Dan Campbell thinks the team has a ton of room to grow and have the hallmarks of a great team.

The Lions are 4-1 entering tonight's game against the Kansas City Chiefs, sitting atop the NFC North Division and tied with San Francisco and Tampa Bay for the top spot in the conference. They have put the nightmare of an ugly opener against the Green Bay Packers in the past.

Detroit has won four consecutive games since dropping that opener. Detroit has beaten Chicago, Baltimore, Cleveland and Cincinnati since. Campbell's team has won 13 consecutive games against teams with a .500 record, or worse — taking care of business against opponents they're expected to beat.

But with injuries to the team's top two cornerbacks and a grueling five-game gauntlet ahead, it will be a challenge to keep this streak rolling.

Campbell believes they haven't hit their peak — quite the statement for a team on pace to score the second-most points in a season in NFL history.

The new coordinators are five games into their stints, and the same could be said for a new-look interior offensive line. The Lions have managed to do this with key injuries in their secondary and a left tackle battling through a shoulder injury.

"I feel like we have a ton of growth left. I do," Campbell said. "I know, for me, I said this going into — here we go, going into two weeks in a row, and we got two wins out of that, is 'You can get frustrated at times about some of the ebbs and flows of the game. Man, we play so good, and then there is these stretches where it's ...'

"But, ultimately, what I feel good about is what I already mentioned and that's the complementary football. When we need it most, our defense steps up. When we need it most, our offense steps up. When we need it most, special teams step up. Those are signs of great teams to me.

"We've got that part. That's the hard part. We've got that. The other stuff, we can clean that up, and I think in that regard, yes, I think we still have so much growth left collectively. And that's the exciting thing."

Lions quarterback Jared Goff echoed Campbell, saying the complementary football has been the hallmark of this team. Goff said the team picks each other up like good teams do, and "four in a row for us feels good."

The five-game gauntlet starts with a Sunday night game in Kansas City against the Chiefs this weekend.

The Lions then host the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on Monday Night Football (Oct. 20) before a bye week. They return to face Minnesota before hitting the road for back-to-back games against Washington and Philadelphia.

The Commanders bounced the Lions in the divisional round a year ago, and the Eagles are defending Super Bowl champs.

If Detroit comes out of this stretch in a good position near the top of the conference, then there are reasons to let dreams about its chances this year run wild.

Campbell and the Lions started their tear to join the NFL's elite teams with a season-opening win against the Chiefs in Kansas City two years ago. He takes pride in what the team has been able to accomplish. Game plans have been brought to life, new pieces are clicking, and he sees the fire and takeaways coming in bunches.

He also knows what lies ahead.

"That's exciting. That fires you up," Campbell said. "But it also ... we know what's coming down the road here, and the first one here is Kansas City. And what Kansas City does well is they win, they freaking win. That's what they do, they find ways to win, and they'll exploit you.

"When you make mistakes, they'll capitalize on them. So, we've got to be on point and clean some of these things up so we've got a chance to go in there and compete against these guys."

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SPORTS

BASEBALL ALDS PLAYOFFS

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Evan Woodbery *ewoodber@mlive.com*

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It was the third one-run game — all with a 3-2 score — in a tightly contested AL Division Series.

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SPORTS

Toronto Maple Leafs defenseman Simon Benoit tries to defend Detroit Red Wings forward Lucas Raymond during a preseason game last week. The Red Wings travel to Toronto for their first road game on Monday afternoon. *Paul Sancya, Associated Press*

NHL

Red Wings stress need for speed when games start to matter most

Detroit wraps home-and-home series at Toronto on Monday.

DETROIT RED WINGS UPDATE

Next game: Detroit Red Wings at Toronto, 4 p.m. Monday **TV:** FDSN

Ansar Khan *akhan1@mlive.com*

DETROIT — From Patrick Kane, who's starting his 19th season, to a trio of rookies who made their NHL debut Thursday with the Detroit Red Wings — and everyone in between — the message is the same.

Prepare for the intensity to increase and play with pace as the regular season opens.

"We should never say this, but I think the guys are sick and tired of practicing and training camp and everything," coach Todd McLellan said prior to Thursday's 5-1 loss to the Montreal Canadiens. "They want to get going, and (coaches) do as well. We need some evidence now. We need to catch them doing things right, catching them doing things wrong. Where do we need to take our game? What do we need to work on? And they need to experience the intensity of a real game.

"You watched the games (Tuesday) night. It started a little faster, a little harder than any of the exhibition games that we played. We just have to remind them of that."

It was McLellan's first training camp as Red Wings head coach after arriving midway through last season. From the first day, he's stressed an up-tempo approach.

"We need to play with some pace," McLellan said. "We need to have a hunting mentality. Our special teams have to polish up again. The power play has to maintain or try to maintain the level it was at last year (fourth in the league) and have the same impact on games. Penalty kill has to improve (last in the league). We believe that we'll get some good goaltending that will allow us to play through spells, maybe when we're not playing really well. And then on the other side of it, maybe we can score more to help the goaltenders and alleviate some of the pressure off of them.

"A lot of things have to go right for us, and it's up to us to make them happen."

The Red Wings are celebrating their centennial season, wearing special uniforms in select games.

"Hopefully, we can impress our fans by our playing style we really implemented over training camp and get a good start," Moritz Seider said. "Todd emphasized on dialing in your first shift, being ready right from the get-go. I think if we can nail that, then we'll be in a good spot. If everyone can win their first shift and we kind of build momentum."

FANS SPAN THE GLOBE TO WATCH RED WINGS

Fans came from all around the globe as Axel Sandin-Pellikka, Michael Brandsegg-Nygard and Emmitt Finnie made their NHL debuts Thursday with the Detroit Red Wings. Each rookie had a large contingent for the season opener.

Brandsegg-Nygard's group, including parents and sister, totals nine, mostly from Norway. Sandin-Pellikka has six family members in from Sweden. Finnie has nine friends and family, including parents, who are traveling to Buffalo over the weekend to watch his brother, Marshall, play at Niagara University.

Coach Todd McLellan said his message was simple — just play the game.

"We're not going to overburden them," McLellan said. "There's enough nerves and anxiousness around. Their families are in, Game One, home opener, 100 years celebration. There's a lot going on that they can get caught up in. The last thing they need is us in their ears. They've been around us now for almost a month. They know what they have to do and they know how to do it or they wouldn't be in the lineup. So just going to get out of the way and hopefully they play a fearless-type game. They just go out and everything flows."

Brandsegg-Nygard, the club's top pick in 2024 (No. 15), said, "There's going to be some nerves. It's the first game of the season and is probably always going to be like that. But I feel like I get more and more comfortable the closer the game gets."

Sandin-Pellikka, drafted 17th overall in 2023, called it "surreal."

"It's exciting for me; it's excitement for them, too," Sandin-Pellikka said. "I think they'll probably be more nervous (Thursday) than I will be."

Selected 201st overall in the seventh round of the 2023 draft, Finnie's ascension to the NHL has been remarkably swift.

"If you ask my dad, he'd probably have thought that (I'd be in the NHL now)," Finnie said. "I'm just super happy that they're all here. I wouldn't be where I am without them. For them to be here, it's pretty special.

"This has been a dream of mine my whole life. I'm sure the nerves will settle in after the first couple shifts, but to start, there will definitely be some nerves."

DETROIT TIGERS

Gritty Tigers stand tall in 15-inning loss against Seattle

Continues from B1

and that somebody was us, and it hurts," manager A.J. Hinch said.

Kerry Carpenter put Detroit in front when he hit a two-run homer off Gabe Speier in the sixth inning.

Carpenter had four hits and walked twice, becoming the first player to reach five times and hit a home run in a winner-take-all postseason game since Babe Ruth in 1926, according to STATS.

The Mariners tied it at 2 on Leo Rivas' pinch-hit single off Tyler Holton in the seventh. Rivas celebrated his 28th birthday with his first postseason hit.

"He was up to the task tonight," Wilson said. "It was a huge hit."

The Mariners had a runner on second with no outs in the 10th, 12th and 13th inning — and came up empty each time. Arozarena and Eugenio Suárez grounded into a double play in extra innings.

The Tigers threatened in the 12th, putting runners on second and third with one out. Zach McKinstry was cut down at home when he attempted to score on Javier Báez's grounder to third. After Carpenter was walked intentionally, Gleyber Torres flied out to right.

Dillon Dingler hit a one-out double for Detroit in the 14th, but he was stranded when Parker Meadows struck out looking against Eduard Bazardo and Castillo retired Báez on a popup to first.

"Guys just kept battling. There were opportunities on both sides after the ninth inning," Hinch said.

SKUBAL DELIVERS DOMINANT PERFORMANCE FOR DETROIT

Tarik Skubal was terrific. And he was long gone when the season ended for the Detroit Tigers.

Skubal struck out 13 in six dominant innings in Game 5 of the AL Division Series at Seattle on Friday. But the Tigers were eliminated when Jorge Polanco singled home J.P. Crawford in the 15th inning, giving the Mariners a 3-2 victory.

Skubal did his part with Detroit on the brink of the franchise's first appearance in the AL Championship Series since 2013. The ace left-hander allowed one run and two hits in what turned into baseball's longest winner-take-all postseason game by innings.

"It's incredible. He kick-started us in such a good direction," Tigers manager A.J. Hinch said. "He missed a ton of bats. Again, if you're not a fan of the Tigers and you haven't watched Tarik start after start after start, you're going to see why he gets the love he does, because he's incredible."

Skubal, who won the AL Cy Young Award last year, also started Detroit's 3-2 loss in Game 2. He struck out nine in seven innings, but surrendered two runs on Polanco's two homers.

Skubal was even better in the series finale. He had a streak of seven consecutive strikeouts, setting a postseason record for a single game.

"Skubal was as advertised," Mariners manager Dan Wilson said. "He did what he does. He had a really good fastball again tonight and mixing his changeup well, had us off stride, and we had to fight for everything."

The 28-year-old Skubal struck out Cal Raleigh on a 100.9 mph fastball on his 99th and final pitch of the night.

It was reminiscent of Skubal's performance during the AL Wild Card Series at Cleveland, when he struck out 14 while pitching 7 ⅔ innings of one-run ball in the Tigers' 2-1 victory in Game 1.

BASEBALL

Comerica Park to host 'Banana Ball' next year

Banana Ball continues to grow.

The Savannah Bananas remain the nameplate for the barnstorming style of rollicking entertainment. On Thursday, founder Jessie Cole announced more growth for his brand of baseball hijinks.

Cole said the Savannah Bananas will be joined by five teams in a new league in 2026 that has scheduled appearances in 75 stadiums — including Detroit's Comerica Park — in 45 states.

"To see the response from fans all across the country, I don't think anyone could have imagined this," Cole said, adding he sold "a handful of tickets" when the Savannah Bananas were founded in 2016. In 2023, the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York, opened an exhibit for the Savannah Bananas.

Two new teams will be added for 2026 — the beach-themed Loco Beach Coconuts and the Indianapolis Clowns, a tribute to the original barnstorming team that inspired Cole. Former major league players — Shane Victorino and Ryan Howard — will coach the new teams.

"Getting the opportunity to coach a Banana Ball team that's paying tribute to the Negro Leagues? That's an honor, straight up," Howard released in a statement. "The names that came before us — Satchel Paige, Josh Gibson, Cool Papa Bell — those legends paved the way. They played the game with style, with soul, with swagger."

The Party Animals and Firefighters will face off on Sept. 18-19 at Comerica Park. A ticket lottery at the Banana Ball's website runs through Oct. 31.

Nearly 90,000 fans entered a lottery last fall hoping to secure tickets to games at Fifth Third Ballpark, home of the West Michigan Whitecaps.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

U-M second in Big Ten poll

The Big Ten Conference doesn't conduct an official men's basketball preseason poll, but writers who cover the league vote for their favorites.

In a poll conducted by the Columbus Dispatch and Indianapolis Star, Purdue was picked to win the regular-season title.

The Boilermakers received 25 of 28 first-place votes. Michigan, which was picked to finish second, received the other three first-place votes. UCLA, Illinois and Oregon were next, ahead of sixth-place Michigan State, last year's champion.

Purdue finished in a tie for fourth last season after winning the Big Ten the previous two years. Michigan State went 17-3 to win the league by three games, ahead of Michigan and Maryland.

The poll included voters who cover all 18 programs in the Big Ten, except USC.

Purdue's Braden Smith, the reigning Big Ten player of the year, was the overwhelming pick to repeat this season (23 votes). Michigan transfer Yaxel Lendeborg received one vote.

Lendeborg edged Iowa's Bennett Stirtz and UCLA's Donovan Dent for transfer of the year. Penn State's Kayden Mingo was picked as the freshman of the year; Michigan's Trey McKenney and Michigan State's Cam Ward also received votes.

Michigan opens the season Friday night with an exhibition game against Cincinnati at Crisler Arena. Michigan State hosts Bowling Green on Oct. 23.

NFL

Hail to the Lions! U-M band to perform at 'MNF' game

Detroit Lions fans have permission to change "Hail to the Victors" to "Hail to the Lions."

The University of Michigan marching band will perform at halftime of the Lions "Monday Night Football" game at Ford Field on Oct. 20 against Tampa Bay.

"Can't wait to hear the best college fight song played at Ford Field. Go Blue!" Lions' defensive end — and U-M alum — shared to Detroit's X social media page.

Detroit and Tampa Bay enter today's games 4-1 on the season.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Magic Johnson named grand marshal of 137th Rose Parade

NBA Hall of Famer Magic Johnson will preside over the 137th Rose Parade as grand marshal. The 66-year-old retired Los Angeles Lakers and Michigan State superstar will take part in festivities leading up to the Jan. 1 Rose Bowl.

"I'm going to be waving like crazy to all the great fans," Johnson said. "The Rose Parade is watched even more than the football game. Wow, a lot of pressure."

After leading Michigan State to the 1979 NCAA basketball title, Johnson was a five-time NBA champion with the Los Angeles Lakers, three-time league MVP, and won a gold medal as part of Team USA's "Dream Team" at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics. — *MLive.com*

SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Who are the top junior fall sports athletes across Ann Arbor?

Readers can cast a vote for their favorite until 9 a.m. on Monday.

Greg Wickliffe *gwickliffe@mlive.com*

ANN ARBOR — They have just about seen it all and yet still have room to grow.

The Ann Arbor area features dozens of junior fall sports athletes who have made a mark on their teams and still have time to add to legacies in their respective sports. And now readers have an opportunity to honor them for their contributions.

MLive/The Ann Arbor News has listed 32 students from the Ann Arbor area for readers to choose between as the top junior athlete for the 2025 fall sports season.

Note that this list is strictly for juniors, as we highlighted seniors last week and will spotlight sophomores and freshmen next week. The winner of the top fall sports senior athlete award was Dexter volleyball player Larkin Pham.

Readers will have unlimited voting for the top junior at mlive.com/sports/ann-arbor until the poll closes at 9 a.m. on Monday, and the winner will be announced online shortly after the poll closes.

Here are the top junior candidates:

Saline's Bryce Barbarino (14) celebrates after scoring a touchdown earlier this fall against Rockford. Barbarino is a top area junior athlete. *Joel Bissell, MLive.com files*

Suriya Ailawadi, Ann Arbor Skyline girls golf: Ailawadi had a strong showing at the SEC-Red Championship as she placed third overall.

Maria Baldwin, Saline girls swimming: Baldwin has first-place finishes in several meets for the Hornets, including the 100 freestyle and 100 butterfly events.

Bryce Barbarino, Saline football: Barbarino is one of the area's top defenders. He had more than 140 tackles as a sophomore last year and has been similarly consistent this season with 50-plus tackles to help the Hornets remain undefeated.

Tessa Boomhour, Dexter volleyball: Boomhour has more than 75 kills with 35 blocks this fall for the Dreadnaughts.

Carson Cherry, Saline football: Cherry has been the Hornets' top rusher this season, accounting for more than 300 yards to help them to a 6-0 start.

Ayla Daigneau, Ypsilanti Lincoln girls swimming: Daigneau has been one of the Railsplitters' top performers this season from her diving position.

Cam Dessellier, Milan football: Dessellier stars as Milan's quarterback and has passed for more than 700 yards through six games this season.

Leighton Diesing, Chelsea girls golf: Diesing finished second to help the Bulldogs win the SEC-White Championship tournament and has also won other events during the season.

Karamoko Doukoure, Ypsilanti boys soccer: Doukoure was a first-team all-conference choice last year and has helped the Grizzlies to another strong season in 2025.

Louis Esposito, Saline football: Esposito has developed into a standout lineman for the Hornets. The Michigan commit has helped pave the way for Saline rushers and helps protect the quarterback in the passing game.

Ian Everts, Ann Arbor Father Gabriel Richard football: Everts has been a key running back for FGR's high-scoring offense. He has rushed for more than 300 yards and has scored seven touchdowns this season.

Logan Fansler, Chelsea boys tennis: Fansler is a veteran presence for Chelsea's young squad this year. He has won 13 matches this season.

Cruz Hanson, Saline football: Hanson has emerged as one of the go-to targets in the passing game for Saline. The junior receiver has more than 20 receptions and two touchdowns this season.

Cole Heys, Ann Arbor Pioneer football: Heys is in his second season as the starting QB for the Pioneers. He has passed for more than 650 yards, eclipsing his season total from a year ago.

Coen Hill, Dexter boys cross country: Hill is one of the top runners in the area and Dexter's top performer this fall. He has seven Top 10 finishes, including two runner-up placements.

Jake Hillis, Chelsea boys soccer: Hillis was an honorable mention all-state player and a first-team all-conference selection last year from his midfield position.

Gibson Ichesco, Chelsea football: Ichesco has developed into one of the most dynamic offensive threats in the area. Whether it's catching passes or running the football, Ichesco excels at both. He has rushed for more than 500 yards and has 300-plus receiving yards and more than 10 offensive TDs this season.

Klara Jones, Ann Arbor Pioneer field hockey: Jones had a solid sophomore season as she helped the Pioneers win the Division 1 state title. Jones finished the year with nine goals and four assists.

Braylen Kaiser, Ann Arbor Pioneer boys tennis: Kaiser has been a solid contributor for the Pioneers, amassing 18 victories this season.

Suryn Lee, Ann Arbor Pioneer girls swimming: Lee has racked up the points for the Pioneers and has victories in multiple events this season.

Kaylie Livingston, Whitmore Lake girls cross country: Livingston will likely go down as the best runner in Whitmore Lake history. She is the defending individual state champion in Division 4 and is the favorite to repeat this year. Livingston has eight Top 5 finishes including four victories this season.

Anna McAllister, Chelsea girls swimming: McAllister is one of the state's top divers, evident by her individual championship in the event at last year's Division 3 finals.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Make your choice for the MLive Ann Arbor-area fall sports Athlete of the Week. Readers can read about the athletes' accomplishments, and cast their votes through 9 a.m. Tuesday, at mlive.com/sports/ann-arbor. Pioneer junior swimmer Cecilia Walusek is the reigning Athlete of the Week. Here are this week's candidates:

* Suriya Ailawadi, Ann Arbor Skyline girls golf
* Chloe Burns, Dexter, volleyball
* Cayden Cappelli, Dexter boys tennis
* Leighton Diesing, Chelsea girls golf
* Natasza Dudek, Pioneer girls cross country
* Logan Fansler, Chelsea boys tennis
* Evelyn Gill, Milan girls swimming
* Addison Gregg, Greenhills girls swimming
* William Heegan, Father Gabriel Richard boys tennis
* Braylen Kaiser, Pioneer boys tennis
* Kaylie Livingston, Whitmore Lake girls cross country
* Avery Manning, Dexter girls golf
* Kamari Ronfeldt, Pioneer boys cross country
* Leena Shelgikar, Huron girls cross country
* Tia Tarnal, Huron girls golf
* Mary-Kate Wayne, Milan girls swimming

Kayce McAllister, Dexter girls swimming: McAllister is Dexter's top swimmer with first-place finishes in multiple events this year.

Melayna Minyard, Chelsea volleyball: Minyard has increased her production for the Bulldogs. She has more than 160 kills and 100-plus digs this fall.

Holden Niemi, Dexter football: Niemi, considered one of the best junior tight ends in the nation, Niemi has caught more than 30 passes for 600-plus yards and five TDs. He is rated a 3-star recruit and the No. 28 tight end nationally, according to 247Sports.

Kamari Ronfeldt, Ann Arbor Pioneer boys cross country: Ronfeldt has taken the next step as a star runner for the Pioneers. He has the fastest time in the state at 14:47.9 and has won three races this season.

Adrienne Schadler, Ann Arbor Skyline girls swimming: Schadler is a two-time individual state champion in the 200 and 500 freestyle races and will be one of the favorites to repeat this fall.

Jacob Szalay, Saline boys cross country: Szalay leads Saline's team with four Top 3 finishes and one victory on the season.

Tia Tarnal, Ann Arbor Huron girls golf: Tarnal has been a consistent performer for the River Rats with several victories.

Becca Van Lent, Ann Arbor Skyline girls cross country: Van Lent is Skyline's top runner this fall. She ranks in the Top 20 in the state and owns six Top 5 finishes.

Cecilia Walusek, Ann Arbor Pioneer girls swimming: Walusek has been a key contributor for the Pioneers as she has first-place finishes in multiple events.

JJ Woods, Milan football: Woods has made plays both on offense and defense for the Big Reds. He has scored rushing touchdowns and has returned an interception for a touchdown this season.

GIRLS GOLF

Dexter senior captures fourth consecutive regional championship

Four Ann Arbor-area teams also earned state finals berths.

Greg Wickliffe *gwickliffe@mlive.com*

Avery Manning moved one step closer to defending her state championship as she earned her fourth consecutive Division 2 regional title on Monday.

The Dexter girls golf senior ran away with her fourth regional crown by shooting a 2-under-par 70 at Michigan State's Forest Akers East Golf Course.

Manning shined on the back 9 as she recorded four birdies and four pars to pull away from the field and will now defend her individual state title Friday and Saturday at Bedford Valley in Battle Creek.

In addition, Maddy Manning finished second for the Dreadnaughts with a 78 and Millie Truesdell shot an 84 to finish third as Dexter won the team title with a score of 322.

Dexter wasn't the only team to have success in Monday's regional action as Ann Arbor Huron fought its way to a Division 1 regional team title with four golfers finishing in the Top 10 at Washtenaw Golf Club.

Tia Tarnal placed second (87), Jennifer Tang finished third (88), Ellise Baidel was fourth (89) and Asia Shi (94) secured a ninth-place finish for the River Rats.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

WEEK 7 SCORES

› Father Gabriel Richard 50, GPW Liggett 14
› Temp. Bedford 31, Ann Arbor Huron 28
› Dexter 48, Ann Arbor Skyline 7
› Chelsea 44, Pinckney 6
› Flat Rock 51, Milan 14
› Harper Woods 41, Saline 32
› Whitmore Lake 41, Strl. Hts. Prkway Chr. 0
› Adrian 39, Ypsilanti 7
› Ypsilanti Lincoln 36, Jackson 32

Ann Arbor Skyline and Ann Arbor Pioneer also earned state finals bids in the D1 regional by finishing second and third, respectively.

The top three teams from each regional automatically qualify for the state finals.

Skyline's Suriya Ailawadi led the Eagles with an 89 to tie for fourth and Olivia Housler shot a 91 to place sixth.

Lucy Grabowski led Pioneer with a 92 to finish eighth and Annie Zhang shot 95 to place 10th.

The three Ann Arbor schools will next compete in the Division 1 state finals Friday and Saturday at Grand Valley State's The Meadows.

Chelsea also earned a state finals berth after placing second at its Division 3 regional tournament at The Tecumseh Country Club.

Leighton Diesing shot an 88 to place fourth, Avery Olaveson shot a 91 to finish seventh and Kate McKenzie placed eighth with a 93.

The Bulldogs are back in action for the D3 state finals Friday and Saturday at Michigan State University's Forest Akers West.

Here is a look at how Ann Arbor-area teams fared in golf regionals:

DIVISION 1

AT WASTHENAW GOLF CLUB
1. Ann Arbor Huron (358)
2. Tia Tarnal, 87
3. Jennifer Tang, 88
4. Ellise Baidel, 89
9. Asia Shi, 94
21. Jessica Wu, 105
2. Ann Arbor Skyline (387)
4. Suriya Ailawadi, 89
6. Olivia Housler, 91
17. Vedha Kakarla, 103
19. Kennedy Wassef, 104
24. Abigail Weeter, 107
3. Ann Arbor Pioneer (394)
8. Lucy Grabowski, 92
10. Annie Zhang, 95
16. Claire Kohn, 101
23. Danika Stone, 106
25. Kyra Zumbrunnen, 108
4. Saline (406)
12. Charlotte Ledy, 97)
14. Ruby Bogsdasarian, 100
19. Lexi Speicher, 104
21. Kelly Brodsky, 105
29. Devin Mulligan, 111

DIVISION 2

AT MSU FOREST AKERS EAST
1. Dexter (322)
1. Avery Manning, 70
2. Maddy Manning, 78
3. Millie Truesdell, 84
10. Ellie Anderson, 90
23. Morgan Pmerantz, 100
AT SANDY CREEK GC, MONROE
13. Ypsilanti
52. Aishani Des, 134

DIVISION 3

TECUMSEH COUNTRY CLUB
2. Chelsea (371)
4. Leighton Diesing, 88
7. Avery Olaveson, 91
8. Kate Mckenzie, 93
15. Emma Ruszkiewicz, 99
21. Hannah Beda, 107
5. Father Gabriel Richard (419)
12. Greysen Gusfa, 96
19. Josephine Woodsum, 102
25. Megan Nickodemus, 108
35. MacKenzie Weeks, 113
44. Maria Peters, 121
11. Milan (449)
48. Addison Publiski, 130
49. Teresa Tomaszewski, 131
52. Honest Zdunczyk, 133
54. Ava Thorton, 142

SPORTS

Detroit Lions coach Dan Campbell looks on from the sidelines during last week's win over Cincinnati. *Associated Press files*

NFL

How do Detroit Lions handle familiar spot of mounting injuries?

There are injuries all over the defensive backfield, and questions at left tackle.

Benjamin Raven *braven@mlive.com*

ALLEN PARK — The Detroit Lions (4-1) head to Kansas City to face the Chiefs (2-3) tonight — the start of a grueling five-game stretch.

There are injuries all over the defensive backfield, and lingering questions at left tackle. Here are questions heading into the marquee Sunday night matchup.

HOW DO THE LIONS BALANCE THEIR INJURED SECONDARY?

Yeah, that's certainly the question of the week. Kerby Joseph and Brian Branch are likely to play. But coach Dan Campbell said it would come down to the wire for their top safeties.

Loren Strickland and Thomas Harper are the two other safeties on the roster.

Strickland has been with the Lions the past two seasons, bouncing between the roster and practice squad. Harper was claimed via waivers earlier this season.

D.J. Reed and Khalil Dorsey are on injured reserve, and Terrion Arnold faces an uncertain timeline for his return. Oh, and Avonte Maddox was a late addition to the injury report with a hamstring injury.

Maddox was likely in line to help fill the void at nickelback. And he was a candidate to take snaps at safety if Joseph or Branch were unable to go.

As things stand, Amik Robertson and Rock Ya-Sin are likely to start at outside cornerback. When it comes to the slot, the Lions are looking at tough decisions. If Robertson moves to the slot for any nickel looks, then Tre Flowers — if he's elevated from the practice squad, as expected — could see more work on the outside.

The Lions are deploying nickel looks less than usual through five games, so that helps. They rank 30th in the league when it comes to nickel looks, per TruMedia. Detroit's defense ran more than last week. But that was due to a tough matchup against Cincinnati's Ja'Marr Chase and Tee Higgins.

"You're always going to probably lean back on that more than the other just to calm their world down a little bit," Lions coach Dan Campbell said. "And because at the end of the day, the most important thing is that we're all on the same page. And at least you can reduce that kind of stress by simplifying it a little bit.

"Now, the flipside of that is you can become a sitting duck if you're not careful, but you have to weigh that. You have to weigh what means more to you versus that opponent. So, we'll be ready."

WHO ARE THE LIONS GOING TO START AT LEFT TACKLE?

Taylor Decker is the first option, of course. But the Lions have said they plan to take it safe with Decker after he battled through shoulder issues for the first four games. Decker was inactive last week, with Giovanni Manu starting for the first time.

Manu missed Friday's practice with a knee injury. The Lions signed Dan Skipper from their practice squad, and have said Devin Cochran is an option for, as well.

Skipper feels like the next man up if Decker isn't ready.

The veteran offensive tackle has started 11 games over the last three seasons. Skipper worked through his knee issue to open the year and has been back at practice for a couple of weeks now.

There is also the option to flip Penei Sewell to the left side. But Campbell admitted he doesn't see that happening, even though the staff spoke about it.

"I think a lot of times what happens with — Sewell could easily go over there," Campbell said. "He'd just want reps. He'd want reps for the week, just, 'Let me get a few reps.' But he'd go over there and handle it just fine.

"It's really more about if it's not Decker, the other guys, and where are they most comfortable? Sewell, by default, will go away from that because he can do it all. So we've talked about it. I don't want to say that's off the table, but that's probably not the first thought, being honest with you."

WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THE CHIEFS THIS YEAR?

The Kansas City Chiefs are 2-3 heading into this matchup. They are fresh off a crushing Monday night loss to the Jacksonville Jaguars, which puts them in a tough spot.

They lost their first two games of the year to the Los Angeles Chargers and Philadelphia Eagles, then responded with back-to-back wins over the New York Giants and Baltimore Ravens. But then, in the final minute, Jaguars quarterback Trevor Lawrence fell at the snap, struggled to get up and still ran the ball into the end zone for the game-winning score.

Kansas City's defense has been stout against the pass. But it has struggled against the rush, ranking 26th in rushing yards allowed per attempt. They've turned the ball over twice on offense, and the defense has created six takeaways.

All three of the team's losses have been by one score — and a combined 12 points. So, don't overlook quarterback Patrick Mahomes and these Chiefs — even with missing pieces at wide receiver. The Lions haven't, talking about them like a team that has been to five of the last seven Super Bowls, with three championships.

"Yeah, they gave me murderer's row my first year as a coordinator," Lions defensive coordinator Kelvin Sheppard said. "As far as the play-callers and the quarterbacks, they weren't going to take it easy on me. But make no mistake, guys, we're going up against a Hall of Fame coach and a Hall of Fame quarterback. ...

"So, the utmost respect for these guys — what they've done and what they're currently doing to be able to hold the line. Their standard is championships, and to be able to hold that line for almost a decade, we understand how hard that is now in the realm that we're in here."

LIONS

Grueling stretch will show plenty about Lions' chances

Continues from B1

All-Pro Kerby Joseph continues to work through knee issues, switching from a sleeve to a bulkier brace in Cincinnati. Joseph has continued to make plays through the pain, with last year's interception king picking off three passes in five games to open the season.

And while D.J. Reed (hamstring) and Terrion Arnold (shoulder) are expected back this year. It won't come before this trip to Kansas City, at least for Reed.

On top of that, depth cornerback Khalil Dorsey (wrist) is expected to miss an extended period. Pass rusher Marcus Davenport (chest) remains on injured reserve, and interior defender Alim McNeill is working back in his 21-day return window.

Detroit's defensive line has been stout. And its pass rush has been one of the league's best, powered by star pass rusher Aidan Hutchinson, who is playing like a legit defensive player of the year favorite. Al-Quadin Muhammad has filled the void left by Davenport, with the Lions saying they found their guy opposite Hutchinson.

But the holes in the secondary are concerning.

It's going to take some maneuvering to fit the pieces and get everything on the same page. Amik Robertson is the top cornerback, with him likely leaving the slot to pick up the slack for Arnold and Reed.

Veteran new faces Avonte Maddox and Rock Ya-Sin feel like safe bets to enter the starting lineup. Maddox looks primed for the slot, while Ya-Sin should play a ton of reps on the outside. Defensive coordinator Kelvin Sheppard also has the ultimate versatile piece in Brian Branch to move inside if needed, too.

But, for now, the Lions are planning to stick to their ways, which means a ton of man coverage and cornerbacks left in one-on-one situations. They have been down this road before, decimated by defensive injuries. And while it's one they would love to avoid, the next man up mentality has become a necessity brought to life, and not just coachspeak.

"So, you just tweak a couple of things and front's got to get there a little quicker and our DBs, man, get up there and challenge, compete," Campbell said. "And we'll adjust, we'll adapt and we move on.

"We're going to do what's best for us, and everything aligns together between the coverage and the rush. So, we don't want to go away from playing man-to-man. I mean, that's what we do here, so we're still going to — it's part of our DNA. Do we alter some things? Yeah, we could alter some things. We're going to help our personnel out the best that we can. We always do that for every game."

HOCKEY

Red Wings impressed by LEGO replica of Little Caesars Arena

Tables full of sticks, pucks, photographs and other items lined the hallway out of the Detroit Red Wings dressing room last week, waiting for players to sign.

One item sat conspicuously next to the door — a 30,000-piece LEGO replica of Little Caesars Arena that players and coaches marveled at as they exited the practice ice.

The roof, a 1,000-piece mosaic of the Little Caesars logo, opens to reveal the ice rink and seats. According to Legolanddiscovery.com, it took 200 hours to design and build — and the ice can be changed out for the Pistons basketball court.

"Must have taken all summer to put that together," coach Todd McLellan said.

Former Red Wings' checker turns PTO into NHL contract

Longtime Detroit Red Wings forward Luke Glendening capitalized on his professional tryout with the New Jersey Devils, signing a one-year, one-way contract with the club for $775,000.

Glendening, a Grand Rapids native and former Michigan captain, spent eight seasons with the Red Wings as a grinder, checker and matchup center and established himself as a top faceoff man.

He spent the past two seasons with the Tampa Bay Lightning (14 goals, four assists in 158 games) following two seasons in Dallas.

Glendening, 36, has 166 career points (83 goals, 83 assists) and 308 penalty minutes) in 864 regular season games.

Red Wings honor Hall of Famer

The Detroit Red Wings are honoring Alex Delvecchio, one of their all-time greats, this season with a No. 10 patch on the sleeves of their traditional jersey and a No. 10 sticker on their helmets on Centennial jersey nights.

Delvecchio died on July 1 at age 93.

Delvecchio was a smooth-skating center and three-time Stanley Cup champion who spent his entire 24-year NHL career with the franchise, from 1950-74. He ranks third on the club's all-time list for games (1,554), goals (456) and points (1,281) and fourth in assists (875).

He was part of championship teams in 1952, 1954 and 1955. Delvecchio won the Lady Byng Trophy three times (1959, 1966, 1969). He was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1977. The Red Wings retired Delvecchio's No. 10 jersey in 1991.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Bear Lake's Mullet named Lions coach of the week

Sam Mullet can add another first to her coaching resume.

Mullet, the Bear Lake varsity football coach, became the first 8-player coach to earn Detroit Lions Coach of the Week honors after a 56-8 win over Mesick in Week 6.

Mullet is the first female head coach in Michigan high school football history, and is in her third season with Bear Lake and her eighth overall in high school coaching.

"The whole thing is an accident," Mullet said. "I didn't mean to be a football coach at all. I'm an English major. I grew up going to Michigan State games. My family has had season tickets for 25-ish years now.

"I grew up watching the game, loving the game. It's something my family did together, and that made it special to me. I started studying the game from the stands from an early age. When I came home from college, our school was breaking up a co-op and starting our own program. I just kind of volunteered to help out and take film or stats. The next thing you know, I'm coaching."

Mullet has completed internships with the Baltimore Ravens and Buffalo Bills.

The 2012 Bear Lake High School graduate also served as the director of football operations for Tift County High School in Georgia under former Lowell and current Chelsea high school coach Noel Dean.

Bear Lake will receive a $1,000 donation from the Lions. The program is in its 29th season, in which Detroit has donated more than $515,000.

NBA

Pistons sign journeyman forward to training camp deal

The Detroit Pistons added forward Feron Hunt to a training camp contract.

The 26-year-old SMU product has spent most of his career in the G League, catching on with the Texas Legends in 2021 after going undrafted.

Last season, the 6-foot-8 forward played 32 games for the Cleveland Charge, averaging 18.6 points, 9.6 rebounds, 2.5 assists, and 1.4 blocks.

Hunt is a longshot to make the Pistons opening-game roster, but he has an opportunity to catch on with the Motor City Cruise.

— MLive.com

SPORTS

Duncan Robinson tries to get past Milwaukee's AJ Green during the first half of a preseason NBA game last week. Robinson, a former standout at Michigan, signed with the Pistons in the offseason. *Morry Gash, Associated Press*

NBA

Detroit Piston addresses mental health in the wake of family tragedy

Detroit's Duncan Robinson pushing for longterm changes surrounding mental health.

Jacob Richman *jrichman@mlive.com*

DETROIT DETROIT PISTONS UPDATE

Next game: Preseason, Detroit Pistons at Cleveland, 7 p.m. Tuesday **TV:** FDSN

— On Aug. 19 — the day that would've been Eli Robinson's 35th birthday — his brother, Duncan Robinson, took to social media to share the story of his older sibling.

As Duncan took an unlikely path from Division III collegiate basketball, to Michigan to the NBA — joining the Detroit Pistons this summer — Eli battled addiction since high school and schizophrenia in 2021 as he became sober.

The brothers kept tabs on each other, Eli being Duncan's biggest fan as he joined the NBA with the Miami Heat and Duncan being called Eli's "whisperer" in moments when the auditory hallucinations turned the caring side of Eli's character into a hypervigilant, protective paranoia, according to his family.

On April 30, Eli climbed the Piscataqua River Bridge connecting Portsmouth, New Hampshire, to Kittery, Maine, and jumped, taking his own life.

While Eli's death devastated the Robinson family — Duncan, his sister Marta Robinson Day, and their parents Elisabeth and Jeffrey — they don't want to sit back and let his work as a fighter and advocate for sobriety and mental health fade away.

Though a self-described "private person" Robinson is opening up about Eli's life and death, hoping to do good by establishing the Robinson Family Foundation.

"The goal is to turn this pain into progress," Duncan recently told NBC News, "and do it in a way that Eli's name is remembered."

Robinson has described the three pillars of the foundation being mental health, heart health and physical activity and finding ways to help fund, educate and encourage people who are struggling.

The hope for the Robinson family is to use connections and experience inside the health care system to assist others as they navigate mental health issues.

It can be a costly process to get the proper care and treatment necessary and even then the Robinsons' fought against a "disjointed health care system" with regular communication break down between providers. The foundation will aim to keep families on track as they try and get vital treatment.

The family also envisions being able to provide grant-based help for those in need. Initially in the wake of Eli's death, the family pointed donations to Seacoast Mental Health Center, where Eli received treatment. According to the center's vice president of community relations Kelly Hartnett, more than $120,000 has been raised.

Duncan and his family are advocate for more deterrents to suicide at local bridges in New Hampshire. The feasibility of installing fencing or netting of some kind is being studied by a government task force, which includes Hartnett.

In the weeks after Eli's death, signs that included a suicide-prevention help line were stationed around the Piscataqua River Bridge.

Duncan was not initially open to the public or even his NBA teammates about the struggles his brother went through. He didn't want to "embarrass" Eli or concern his teammates with the internal dealings of his family.

Now, he wants people to know the good that Eli brought into the world and their family and not just the problems he fought hard to overcome.

"Eli was not depressed. Eli loved life. Eli had a lot of relationships," Duncan said. "Eli cared about his family, his people, more than anybody. Eli was tortured. Eli had a disease that he couldn't shake, and he fought incredibly valiantly. And I think you know, as his family and the people closest to him, I think we all understand.

"Doesn't make it easy; makes it still incredibly hard. But it wasn't that he was this person that was waking up every day saying, 'I hate life, I hate this'; no, it was he just couldn't do it anymore. ... I mean, imagine doing mundane tasks, driving to work, doing that, and just being entirely tortured, having voices in your head all day long. And he just had enough."

Duncan has encouraged people to stay tuned online for more initiatives from the Robinson Family Foundation, while taking an outward role in advocacy for those that are still fighting like Eli did.

"There were so many incredible moments where he won those battles," Robinson said. "So I just want to acknowledge those."

COLLEGE FOOTBALL WOLVERINES

U-M running back's historic start has everyone surprised

Wolverines were on the road at USC late Saturday night.

Aaron McMann *amcmann@mlive.com*

ANN ARBOR — It took a few years, and a surprise phone call from the transfer portal, but Michigan found its next dominant running back in Justice Haynes.

As the story goes, Haynes — the third option at Alabama the last couple of years — entered the portal in December and made one of his first phone calls to Wolverines running backs coach Tony Alford.

"They were real short," Alford recalled Wednesday. "He and I have had a great relationship dating back to when he was a junior in high school. So when he decided to go into the portal, he called, he said 'This is what I want to do, I'd like to be coached by you.' This is where I happened to be at, so it worked out."

Haynes has been one of the best things to happen to Michigan football in 2025 ... becoming the first back to run for 100 yards in the first five games of a season in program history.

Heading into Saturday's game at USC, Haynes was the No. 1 back in the Big Ten in nearly every rushing category, fourth nationally in rushing yards (654) and rushing TDs (8) and 15th in average yards per carry (7.69). Coach Sherrone Moore is drumming up a Heisman campaign.

"He's faster than I thought he was," Alford quipped. "To say that we expected certain things, (that's not true). We expected him to come in here and compete at a high level, which he's doing and has done since the day he's gotten here. I'm glad he's with us."

That comment — "glad he's with us" — has reverberated the entire team. Haynes' work ethic and dedication to his body became apparent in the spring, then his straight-line speed began popping in the summer and during training camp, when defensive coordinator Wink Martindale's secondary had no answer for catching up to him.

"He never got caught. Ever," Moore said. "I remember Wink saying, 'Well, I'm glad he's on our team.'"

Those catch-me-if-you-can moments began in Week 1, when Haynes ripped off runs of 56 and 59 yards. He followed it a week later by breaking off a 75-yard touchdown run against Oklahoma.

And he hasn't slowed since, adding a 75-yard touchdown run against Nebraska and a 43-yard run against Wisconsin's top-ranked rushing defense.

His big plays have Michigan moving up the college football charts, with the Wolverines ranked 13th in rushing offense despite running behind a work-in-progress offensive line.

"We're going to do what we do," Alford said. "We run the ball. Those carries were going to be shared as we knew coming in (with Jordan Marshall), and he's kind of taken off with some things. But he's earned what he's gotten, too."

Michigan allowed Haynes to start over.

"I knew he could run; he would tell me he could," Alford said. "But I didn't (see the speed). I didn't see it last spring; I started to see glimpses of it in the summer, and during training camp in particular. And that's not to say I thought he was slow.

"But he's faster than I thought he was, watching him from afar."

BOXING

Saginaw boxer dies a week after bout earlier this month

Media reports indicate a Saginaw boxer died Saturday, Oct. 4, following a bout at the Gideon Boxing Club on Hancock Street in Saginaw.

Tyrone Welch Jr., 22, died at Covenant HealthCare, according to an obituary posted by Paradise Funeral Chapel.

Gideon Boxing Club, located at 1209 Hancock, hosted a boxing event in which Welch Jr. was scheduled to compete

Club owner Joe Mendez would not confirm or comment on Welch's death.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

MSU loses 4-star LB recruit after visit to rival Michigan

Michigan State's next recruiting class suffered a second blow last week.

Braylon Hodge, a 2026 four-star linebacker from Cherry Creek High School in suburban Denver, announced his decommitment from the Spartans via social media. That followed four-star receiver Tyren Wortham backing off his verbal pledge on Monday.

Hodge, 6-foot-3 and 212 pounds, is listed as the No. 18 linebacker and No. 274 player overall in the 2026 class, according to 247Sports Composite, making him the highest-rated commit for the Spartans before leaving the group. After committing to Michigan State in June, his recruitment surged, picking up offers from Michigan, Oregon, Texas and Missouri. He was in Ann Arbor last weekend.

Michigan State (3-2) is down to 20 commits in the 2026 class. The lone linebacker in the group is three-star Adam Shaw from New Jersey.

NFL

Amon-Ra St. Brown expected to play despite wrist injury

ALLEN PARK — Amon-Ra St. Brown dismissed any concern over his status for tonight's game against thee Kansas City Chiefs.

The Detroit Lions All-Pro wide receiver missed Wednesday's practice with a wrist injury, and he said his wrist just needed a rest day.

"No, I feel all good," St. Brown said. "It's been bugging me for a little (bit). But just a day to really rest, get my legs back under me.

"But nothing to worry about. All good. Another big game this week."

St. Brown had his second 100-yard game of the season last weekend in Cincinnati. He has 35 catches for 407 yards and six touchdowns this season.

COLLEGE SPORTS

Ann Arbor bar pushes back against trademark dispute

An Ann Arbor restaurant attempting to trademark the term "Buckeye Tears" for a local beer is pushing back against a legal challenge from The Ohio State University in a reply that appears to poke fun at the storied Michigan rival.

Ohio State filed a notice of opposition in late August with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office against an application from the Brown Jug, 1204 S. University Ave., alleging a Buckeye Tears product would "cause confusion" among customers and suggest an affiliation with the university.

Buckeyes are the Ohio State mascot.

The Brown Jug serves Buckeye Tears as a set of beers provided by a local distributor. It has been described as a light beer. Founded in the 1930s, the restaurant has long been popular among University of Michigan sports fans, students and alumni.

In a reply filed last week, the restaurant's owners refuted Ohio State's claim that Buckeye Tears would confuse fans, alleging the university is instead attempting to police use of an otherwise common term with a "team of lawyers only when a Michigan small business sought to make a good-natured joke."

The mark "plays into a perception shared by Michigan fans — particularly in the wake of their football team's four consecutive victories over Ohio State — that Ohio State and its supporters may on occasion act like sore losers," the reply reads. "Ohio State's very filing of the opposition validates that perception."

In September, Niko Porikos, whose father Perry owns the Brown Jug, said they've been serving Buckeye Tears for about a year and filed the trademark application as part of their due diligence in the event they decided to can and sell a beer down the road.

Ohio State's original challenge claimed the Brown Jug's beer would "dilute the distinctiveness" of the Buckeyes brand, which generates millions in royalty revenue every year.

The Brown Jug's reply cited the term Buckeyes as a reference to all Ohioans because of the state's official tree and could refer to more than 5,700 Ohio businesses. *— MLive.com*

SPORTS

PRO BASEBALL

MLB postseason schedule

DIVISION SERIES

Saturday, Oct. 4
Toronto 10, N.Y. Yankees 1
Detroit 3, Seattle 2, 11 innings
Milwaukee 9, Chicago 3 Cubs
L.A. Dodgers 5, Philadelphia 3
Sunday, Oct. 5
Toronto 13, N.Y. Yankees 7
Seattle 3, Detroit 2
Monday, Oct. 6
Milwaukee 7, Chicago Cubs 3
L.A. Dodgers 4, Philadelphia 3
Tuesday, Oct. 7
Seattle 8, Detroit 4
N.Y. Yankees 9, Toronto 6
Wednesday, Oct. 8
Detroit 9, Seattle 3
Chicago Cubs 4, Milwaukee 3
Toronto 5, N.Y. Yankees 2, Toronto wins series 3-1
Philadelphia 8, L.A. Dodgers 2
Thursday, Oct. 9
L.A. Dodgers 2, Philadelphia 1, 11 innings, L.A. Dodgers wins series 3-1
Chicago Cubs 6, Milwaukee 0, series tied 2-2
Friday, Oct. 10
Seattle 3, Detroit 2, Seattle wins series 3-2
Saturday, Oct. 11
Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee, late
LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES
(Best-of-7; x-denotes if necessary)
Sunday, Oct. 12
Seattle at Toronto, 8:03 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 13
Seattle at Toronto, TBD
L.A. Dodgers vs. TBD
Tuesday, Oct. 14
L.A. Dodgers at Milwaukee or Chicago Cubs at L.A. Dodgers, TBD
Wednesday, Oct. 15
Toronto at Seattle, TBD
Thursday, Oct. 16
Toronto at Seattle, TBD
Milwaukee at L.A. Dodgers or L.A. Dodgers at Chicago Cubs, TBD
Friday, Oct. 17
x-Toronto at Seattle, TBD
Milwaukee at L.A. Dodgers or L.A. Dodgers at Chicago Cubs, TBD
Saturday, Oct. 18
x-Milwaukee at L.A. Dodgers or L.A. Dodgers at Chicago Cubs, TBD
Sunday, Oct. 19
x-Seattle at Toronto, TBD
Monday, Oct. 20
x-Seattle at Toronto, TBD
x-L.A. Dodgers at Milwaukee or Chicago Cubs at L.A. Dodgers, TBD
Tuesday, Oct. 21
x-L.A. Dodgers at Milwaukee or Chicago Cubs at L.A. Dodgers, TBD

PRO FOOTBALL

NFL standings

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	4	1	0	.800	153	123
New England	3	2	0	.600	125	101
Miami	1	4	0	.200	107	145
N.Y. Jets	0	5	0	.000	112	157
South	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
Indianapolis	4	1	0	.800	163	89
Jacksonville	3	1	0	.750	96	72
Houston	2	3	0	.400	108	61
Tennessee	1	4	0	.200	73	141
North	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
Pittsburgh	3	1	0	.750	96	98
Cincinnati	2	3	0	.400	85	156
Baltimore	1	4	0	.200	141	177
Cleveland	1	4	0	.200	73	123
West	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
Denver	3	2	0	.600	117	84
L.A. Chargers	3	2	0	.600	98	98
Kansas City	2	2	0	.500	97	76
Las Vegas	1	4	0	.200	83	139

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	4	2	0	.667	142	143
Washington	3	2	0	.600	134	101
Dallas	2	2	1	.500	151	154
N.Y. Giants	2	4	0	.333	121	144
South	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
Tampa Bay	4	1	0	.800	135	132
Atlanta	2	2	0	.500	76	86
Carolina	2	3	0	.400	102	119
New Orleans	1	4	0	.200	92	135
North	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
Detroit	4	1	0	.800	174	112
Green Bay	2	1	1	.625	104	84
Minnesota	3	2	0	.600	123	97
Chicago	2	2	0	.500	101	117
West	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
San Francisco	4	1	0	.800	106	98
L.A. Rams	3	2	0	.600	123	107
Seattle	3	2	0	.600	146	105
Arizona	2	3	0	.400	103	96

WEEK 6
Thursday, Oct. 9
N.Y. Giants 34, Philadelphia 17
Sunday, Oct. 12
Denver vs N.Y. Jets at London, 9:30 a.m.
Arizona at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
Dallas at Carolina, 1 p.m.
L.A. Chargers at Miami, 1 p.m.
L.A. Rams at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
New England at New Orleans, 1 p.m.
Seattle at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Tennessee at Las Vegas, 4:05 p.m.
Cincinnati at Green Bay, 4:25 p.m.
San Fran. at Tampa Bay, 4:25 p.m.
Detroit at Kansas City, 8:20 p.m.
Open: Houston, Minnesota
Monday, Oct. 13
Buffalo at Atlanta, 7:15 p.m.
Chicago at Washington, 8:15 p.m.
WEEK 7
Thursday, Oct. 16
Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, 8:15 p.m.

The Las Vegas Aces' A'ja Wilson holds up the championship trophy after a 97-86 series-clinching win over Phoenix in Game 4 of the WNBA Finals on Friday. *Chris Coduto, Getty Images via Tribune News Service*

Sunday, Oct. 19
L.A. Rams vs Jacksonville at London, 9:30 a.m.
Carolina at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.
Las Vegas at Kansas City, 1 p.m.
Miami at Cleveland, 1 p.m.
New England at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
New Orleans at Chicago, 1 p.m.
Philadelphia at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at L.A. Chargers, 4:05 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Denver, 4:05 p.m.
Green Bay at Arizona, 4:25 p.m.
Washington at Dallas, 4:25 p.m.
Atlanta at San Francisco, 8:20 p.m.
Open: Baltimore, Buffalo
Monday, Oct. 20
Tampa Bay at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Houston at Seattle, 10 p.m.

PRO BASKETBALL

NBA preseason schedule

Sunday's Games
Phoenix vs. Brooklyn, 7 a.m., Macao, China
Toronto at Washington, 3 p.m.
Miami at Orlando, 6 p.m.
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Chicago, 7 p.m.
Denver at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.
Golden State at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.
Monday's Games
Miami at Atlanta, 6 p.m.
San Antonio at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Washington at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Guangzhou at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Utah, 9 p.m.
Tuesday's Games
Detroit at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Houston at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Denver, 9 p.m.
Golden State at Portland, 10 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

WNBA playoffs

FINALS
Friday, Oct. 3
Las Vegas 89, Phoenix 86
Sunday, Oct. 5
Las Vegas 91, Phoenix 78
Wednesday, Oct. 8
Las Vegas 90, Phoenix 88
Friday, Oct. 10
Las Vegas 97, Phoenix 86, Las Vegas wins series 4-0

HOCKEY

NHL

(Through Friday's Games)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Florida	2	2	0	0	4	5	3
Boston	2	2	0	0	4	7	4
Toronto	1	1	0	0	2	5	2
Ottawa	1	1	0	0	2	5	4
Montreal	2	1	1	0	2	7	6
Tampa Bay	1	0	1	0	0	4	5
Detroit	1	0	1	0	0	1	5
Buffalo	1	0	1	0	0	0	4
Metropolitan	**GP**	**W**	**L**	**OT**	**Pts**	**GF**	**GA**
Pittsburgh	2	2	0	0	4	7	3
Carolina	1	1	0	0	2	6	3
N.Y. Rangers	2	1	1	0	2	4	3
N.Y. Islanders	1	0	1	0	0	3	4
Columbus	1	0	1	0	0	1	2
Philadelphia	1	0	1	0	0	1	2
Washington	1	0	1	0	0	1	3
New Jersey	1	0	1	0	0	3	6

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	2	2	0	0	4	6	2
Minnesota	1	1	0	0	2	5	0
Dallas	1	1	0	0	2	5	4
Nashville	1	1	0	0	2	2	1
Chicago	2	0	1	1	1	5	7
Winnipeg	1	0	1	0	0	4	5
Utah	1	0	1	0	0	1	2
St. Louis	1	0	1	0	0	0	5
Pacific	**GP**	**W**	**L**	**OT**	**Pts**	**GF**	**GA**
Vegas	2	1	0	1	3	9	9
Vancouver	1	1	0	0	2	5	1
Seattle	1	1	0	0	2	3	1
Los Angeles	2	1	1	0	2	7	9
Calgary	2	1	1	0	2	5	8
Edmonton	1	0	0	1	1	3	4
San Jose	1	0	0	1	1	3	4
Anaheim	1	0	1	0	0	1	3

Sunday's Game
Washington at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Monday's Games
Colorado at Buffalo, 12:30 p.m.
Nashville at Ottawa, 1 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Boston, 1 p.m.
Winnipeg at N.Y. Islanders, 1 p.m.
Detroit at Toronto, 4 p.m.
Florida at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Columbus, 7 p.m.
St. Louis at Vancouver, 7:30 p.m.
Los Angeles at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Utah at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Tuesday's Games
Edmonton at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Nashville at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Seattle at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Washington, 7 p.m.
Vegas at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Minnesota at Dallas, 9:30 p.m.
Carolina at San Jose, 10 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Anaheim, 10:30 p.m.

SOCCER

MLS standings

(Through Friday's Matches)

Eastern	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	20	7	6	66	57	33
Cincinnati	19	9	5	62	49	40
Inter Miami CF	17	7	8	59	72	53
Charlotte FC	18	13	2	56	53	46
New York City FC	17	11	5	56	49	42
Nashville	16	11	6	54	56	40
Orlando City	14	7	11	53	60	45
Chicago	15	11	7	52	66	58
Columbus	13	8	12	51	52	50
New York	12	14	7	43	47	44
New England	9	16	8	35	42	49
Toronto FC	5	14	14	29	33	42
CF Montréal	6	17	10	28	34	57
Atlanta	5	15	12	27	37	58
D.C. United	5	18	10	25	29	65
Western	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pts**	**GF**	**GA**
San Diego FC	18	9	6	60	60	41
Vancouver	17	6	9	60	63	35
Los Angeles FC	17	7	8	59	63	37
Minnesota United	16	7	10	58	55	37
Seattle	13	9	10	49	55	47
Austin FC	12	12	8	44	35	43
Portland	11	11	11	44	41	44
FC Dallas	10	11	11	41	49	52
Real Salt Lake	12	16	4	40	36	46
Colorado	11	15	7	40	42	54
San Jose	10	15	8	38	58	62
Houston	9	15	9	36	43	56
St Louis City	8	18	7	31	42	56
Kansas City	7	20	6	27	46	70
LA Galaxy	5	18	9	24	42	64

Sunday, October 12
Los Angeles FC at Austin FC, 7 p.m.
Saturday, October 18
D.C. United at Atlanta, 6 p.m.
Philadelphia at Charlotte FC, 6 p.m.
CF Montréal at Cincinnati, 6 p.m.
New York at Columbus, 6 p.m.
Miami at Nashville, 6 p.m.
Chicago at New England, 6 p.m.
Seattle at New York City FC, 6 p.m.
Orlando City at Toronto FC, 6 p.m.
Los Angeles FC at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Houston at Kansas City, 9 p.m.
Minnesota at LA Galaxy, 9 p.m.
San Diego FC at Portland, 9 p.m.
Austin FC at San Jose, 9 p.m.
Real Salt Lake at St Louis City, 9 p.m.
FC Dallas at Vancouver, 9 p.m..

NWSL standings

(Through Friday's Matches)

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Kansas City	19	2	2	59	45	11
Washington	12	4	7	43	39	28
Orlando	10	8	6	36	29	24
Gotham FC	9	6	8	35	31	18
Seattle	9	7	8	35	29	27
Portland	9	8	7	34	32	29
Louisville	9	9	6	33	32	36
San Diego	8	8	7	31	31	29
North Carolina	7	9	7	28	29	35
Houston	7	10	6	27	26	35
Angel City	6	11	6	24	28	37
Utah Royals FC	5	11	7	22	24	37
Bay FC	4	12	8	20	25	36
Chicago	2	11	11	17	29	47

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.
Sunday, October 12
Houston at Angel City, 5 p.m.
Friday, October 17
North Carolina at Bay FC, 10 p.m.
Utah Royals FC at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Saturday, October 18
Orlando at Washington, 12:30 p.m.
Kansas City at Houston, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at San Diego, 10 p.m.
Sunday, October 19
Louisville at Gotham FC, 3 p.m.
Portland at Angel City, 5 p.m.

ON TELEVISION

SUNDAY

AUTO RACING
5:30 p.m. NASCAR Cup, South Point 400, Las Vegas. USA
BASEBALL
8 p.m. MLB Playoffs, ALCS, Seattle at Toronto. Fox
BASKETBALL
7 a.m. NBA Preseason, Brooklyn vs. Phoenix. NBA
3 p.m. NBA Preseason, Toronto at Washington. NBA
7 p.m. NBA Preseason, Cleveland at Boston. ESPN
9:30 p.m. NBA Preseason, Denver at L.A. Clippers. ESPN
FOOTBALL
9:30 a.m. NFL, Denver at N.Y. Jets. NFL
1 p.m. NFL, Cleveland vs. Pittsburgh. CBS
1 p.m. NFL, Dallas vs. Carolina. Fox
4:25 p.m. NFL, Cincinnati at Green Bay. CBS
8:20 p.m. NFL, Detroit at Kansas City. NBC
GOLF
6:30 a.m. DP World Tour, Spanish Open, Final Round. Golf
3 p.m. Korn Ferry, Tour Championship, Final Round. Golf
7 p.m. Champions, SAS Championship, Final Round. Golf (Taped)
9 p.m. LPGA, Buick Shanghai, Final Round. Golf (Taped)
HOCKEY
7 p.m. NHL, Washington at N.Y. Rangers. NHL
SOCCER
Noon Women's Italian Serie A, TBD at Parma. CBSSN
1 p.m. Women's College, North Carolina at Duke. ESPNU
3 p.m. Women's College, Harvard at Yale. ESPNU
5 p.m. NWSL, Houston at Angel City. ESPN
OTHER
1 p.m. College Volleyball, Kentucky at LSU. ESPN
3 p.m. College Volleyball, Pittsburgh at Florida St. ESPN
4 p.m. Swimming, World Aquatics World Cup. NBC
6 p.m. Fishing, Anderson, S.C. CBSSN
8:15 p.m. NFL, Chicago at Washington. ABC
GOLF
9 a.m. College, St. Andrews Collegiate, First Round. Golf
HOCKEY
1 p.m. NHL, Tampa Bay at Boston. NHL
4 p.m. NHL, Detroit at Toronto. FDSN
SOCCER
11:50 a.m. Men's, Montenegro vs. Liechtenstein. FS2
2:30 p.m. UEFA World Cup Qualifier, Northern Ireland vs. Germany. FS2
8 p.m. UEFA World Cup Qualifier, Honduras vs. Haiti. CBSSN
10 p.m. UEFA World Cup Qualifier, Costa Rica vs. Nicaragua. CBSSN

TUESDAY

BASEBALL
8 p.m. MLB Playoffs, NLCS, TBD vs. L.A. Dodgers. TBS
BASKETBALL
7 p.m. NBA Preseason, Detroit at Cleveland. FDSN
8 p.m. NBA Preseason, Oklahoma City at Milwaukee. Peacock
FOOTBALL
7 p.m. College, New Mexico St. at Liberty. CBSSN
7:30 p.m. College, Arkansas St. at South Alabama. ESPN2
8 p.m. College, Florida International at Western Kentucky. ESPNU
GOLF
9 a.m. College, St. Andrews Collegiate, Second Round. Golf
SOCCER
11:50 a.m. UEFA World Cup Qualifier, Estonia vs. Moldova. FS2
2:30 p.m. UEFA World Cup Qualifier, Latvia vs. England. FS2
6 p.m. College, Michigan at Ohio State. BTN
8 p.m. College, Rutgers at Maryland. BTN

WEDNESDAY

BASEBALL
TBD MLB Playoffs, ALCS, Toronto at Seattle. Fox, FS1
BASKETBALL
7:30 p.m. NBA Preseason, Toronto at Boston. NBA
10:30 p.m. NBA Preseason, Dallas at L.A. Lakers. ESPN
FOOTBALL
7 p.m. College, Texas-El Paso at Sam Houston St. CBSSN
7 p.m. College, Delaware at Jacksonville. ESPN2
GOLF
9 a.m. College, St. Andrews Collegiate, Final Round. Golf
10 p.m. LPGA, BMW Ladies Championship, First Round. Golf

MONDAY

BASEBALL
TBD MLB Playoffs, ALCS, Seattle at Toronto. Fox
TBD MLB Playoffs, NLCS, TBD vs. L.A. Dodgers. TBS
BASKETBALL
6 p.m. NBA Preseason, Miami at Atlanta. NBA
9 p.m. NBA Preseason, Dallas at Utah. NBA
FOOTBALL
7:15 p.m. NFL, Buffalo at Atlanta. ESPN

Sports calendar

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR
DETROIT LIONS	at K.C. 8:20 p.m. NBC				Next: Oct. 20 vs. Tampa Bay
DETROIT RED WINGS		at Toronto 4 p.m. FDSN		vs. Florida 7 p.m. TNT	
DETROIT PISTONS			Preseason, at Cleveland 7 p.m. FDSN		Preseason, vs. Wash. 7 p.m. FDSN
U-M FOOTBALL					Next: Saturday vs. Washington
MSU FOOTBALL					Next: Saturday at Indiana

3 a.m. DP World Tour, India Championship, First Round. Golf
HOCKEY
7 p.m. NHL, Florida at Detroit. TNT, TruTV
9:30 p.m. NHL, Chicago at St. Louis. TNT, TruTV
SOCCER
3 p.m. UEFA Women's Champions League, Chelsea vs. Paris FC. CBSSN
3:45 p.m. FIFA U-20 World Cup, Semifinal. FS2
6:45 p.m. FIFA U-20 World Cup, Semifinal. FS2
OTHER
7 p.m. College Volleyball, Rutgers at Maryland. BTN

THURSDAY

BASEBALL
TBD MLB Playoffs, ALCS, Toronto at Seattle. Fox, FS1
TBD MLB Playoffs, NLCS, TBD vs. L.A. Dodgers. TBS
BASKETBALL
7 p.m. NBA Preseason, Washington at Detroit. FDSN
7:30 p.m. NBA Preseason, Houston at Atlanta. ESPN2
FOOTBALL
7:30 p.m. College, Tulsa at East Carolina. ESPN
8:15 p.m. NFL, Pittsburgh at Cincinnati. Prime Video
GOLF
3 a.m. DP World Tour, India Championship, First Round. Golf
10 p.m. LPGA, BMW Ladies Championship, Second Round. Golf
3 a.m. DP World Tour, India Championship, Second Round. Golf
SOCCER
3 p.m. UEFA Women's Champions League, Bayern Munich vs. Juventus. CBSSN
11 p.m. Women's College, Minnesota at Washington. BTN
OTHER
1 p.m. Horse Racing. FS2
7 p.m. College Volleyball, Purdue at Indiana. BTN
9 p.m. College Volleyball, Michigan at Northwestern. BTN
4 a.m. Women's Australian Rules Football, Hawthorn at Port Adelaide. FS2
6 a.m. Women's Australian Rules Football, Geelong at West Coast. FS2

FRIDAY

AUTO RACING
1:30 p.m. Formula 1, U.S. Grand Prix, Practice. ESPN2
4 p.m. NASCAR Trucks, Talladega. FS1
5:30 p.m. Formula 1, U.S. Grand Prix, Qualifying. ESPN2
BASEBALL
TBD MLB Playoffs, ALCS, Toronto at Seattle, if necessary. Fox, FS1
TBD MLB Playoffs, NLCS, TBD vs. L.A. Dodgers. TBS
BASKETBALL
6 p.m. College, Exhibition, Cincinnati at Michigan. BTN+
8 p.m. NBA Preseason, Denver at Oklahoma City. NBA
10:30 p.m. NBA Preseason, Sacramento at L.A. Lakers. NBA
FOOTBALL
7 p.m. College, Louisville at Miami. ESPN2
8 p.m. College, Nebraska at Minnesota. Fox
9 p.m. College, San Jose State at Utah State. CBSSN
10:30 p.m. College, North Carolina at California. ESPN
GOLF
3 a.m. DP World Tour, India Championship, Second Round. Golf
2 p.m. Champions, Dominion Energy Charity Classic, First Round. Golf
10 p.m. LPGA, BMW Ladies Championship, Third Round. Golf
3 a.m. DP World Tour, India Championship, Third Round. Golf
HOCKEY
6:30 p.m. College, Michigan State at Boston U. ESPNU
7 p.m. NHL, Tampa Bay at Detroit. FDSN
SOCCER
3 p.m. English Championship League, Middlesbrough vs. Ipswich Town. CBSSN
6 p.m. College, UCLA at Michigan. BTN
OTHER
2 p.m. Horse Racing. FS2
4 p.m. Field Hockey, Northwestern at Rutgers. BTN
8 p.m. College Volleyball, UCLA at Wisconsin. BTN
9 p.m. College Volleyball, Hawaii at Long Beach State. ESPNU
10 p.m. Women's Australian Rules Football, Sydney at Melbourne. FS2
10 p.m. College Volleyball, Penn State at Washington. BTN
Midnight MotoGP, Australia Grand Prix, Sprint. FS1
Midnight Women's Australian Rules Football, Adelaide at North Melbourne. FS2
1 a.m. Horse Racing. FS1
4 a.m. Women's Australian Rules Football, St. Kilda at Carlton. FS2

SATURDAY

AUTO RACING
1 p.m. Formula 1, U.S. Grand Prix, Sprint. ESPN News
4 p.m. NASCAR Xfinity, Talladega. CW
5 p.m. Formula 1, U.S. Grand Prix, Qualifying. ESPN News
BASEBALL
TBD MLB Playoffs, NLCS, TBD vs. L.A. Dodgers, if necessary. TBS
FOOTBALL
Noon College, Teams TBA. ABC
Noon College, Central Michigan at Bowling Green. CBSSN
Noon College, Georgia Tech at Duke. ESPN
Noon College, Baylor at TCU. ESPN2
Noon College, Army at Tulane. ESPNU
Noon College, Washington at Michigan. Fox
Noon College, Arizona at Houston. FS1
1 p.m. College, West Virginia at Central Florida. TNT, TruTV
3 p.m. College, Purdue at Northwestern. BTN
3:30 p.m. College, Mississippi at Georgia. ABC
3:30 p.m. College, Ohio State at Wisconsin. CBS
3:30 p.m. College, Wyoming at Air Force. CBSSN
3:30 p.m. College, Texas A&M at Arkansas. ESPN
3:30 p.m. College, Old Dominion at James Madison. ESPNU
3:30 p.m. College, UNLV at Boise State. FS1
3:30 p.m. College, Michigan State at Indiana. Peacock
4 p.m. College, Memphis at Ala.-Birmingham. ESPN2
4 p.m. College, Texas Tech at Arizona State. Fox
6:30 p.m. College, Oregon at Rutgers. BTN
6:30 p.m. College, Washington State at Virginia. CW
7 p.m. College, Maryland at UCLA. FS1
7 p.m. College, Penn State at Iowa. Peacock
7:30 p.m. College, Tennessee at Alabama. ABC
7:30 p.m. College, USC at Notre Dame. NBC, Peacock
8 p.m. College, Cincinnati at Oklahoma State. ESPN2
8 p.m. College, Utah at BYU. Fox
9:45 p.m. College, Nevada at New Mexico. FS1
10 p.m. College, La.-Lafayette at Oregon State. CW
10:30 p.m. College, Florida State at Stanford. ESPN
GOLF
3 a.m. DP World Tour, India Championship, Third Round. Golf
2 p.m. Champions, Dominion Energy Charity Classic, Second Round. Golf
11 p.m. LPGA, BMW Ladies Championship, Final Round. Golf
3 a.m. DP World Tour, India Championsihp, Final Round. Golf
HOCKEY
3 p.m. NHL, Florida at Buffalo. NHL
7 p.m. NHL, Seattle at Toronto. NHL
SOCCER
6:30 a.m. English Premier, Nottingham Forest at Chelsea. USA
10 a.m. English Premier, Brighton & Hove Albion at Newcastle United. USA
12:30 p.m. English Premier, Fulham at Arsenal. NBC
12:30 p.m. NWSL, Orlando at Washington. CBS
7:30 p.m. NWSL, Kansas City at Houston. Ion
OTHER
4 a.m. Women's Australian Rules Football, St. Kilda at Carlton. FS2
Noon Horse Racing. FS2
3:30 p.m. Figure Skating, French Grand Prix. NBC
Midnight MotoGP, Australia Grand Prix. FS1

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Public Notices

Pittsfield Charter Township Board of Trustees Meeting Synopsis

The Pittsfield Charter Township Board of Trustees held a Regular Board Meeting on October 8, 2025. Minutes can be viewed online at www.pittsfield-mi.gov. If you have any questions, please contact the Clerk's Office at (734) 822-3120.

Michelle L. Anzaldi, Clerk
Pittsfield Charter Township

NOTICE OF ELECTION

TUESDAY, November 4, 2025
FROM 7:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.

TO QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF PITTSFIELD CHARTER TOWNSHIP:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special Election will be held for the purpose of voting on the following Millage Proposal:
Pittsfield Charter Township: Washtenaw Intermediate School District (WISD)

WASHTENAW INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROPOSAL

Shall Washtenaw Intermediate School District, Michigan, come under sections 681 to 690 of the Revised School Code, as amended, and establish an area career and technical education program, which is designed to encourage the operation of area career and technical education programs, if the annual property tax levied for this purpose is limited to 1 mill ($1.00 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 10 years, 2026 to 2035, inclusive; the estimate of the revenue the intermediate school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2026 is approximately $25,020,000 from local property taxes authorized herein?

Full text of the proposals may also be obtained at the Pittsfield Charter Township Clerk's Office, 6201 W. Michigan Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48108. A sample ballot may be viewed at www.pittsfield-mi.gov or www.mi.gov/vote.

The polling locations for the Special Election are as follows:
Precincts 1 & 5 : Pittsfield Township Administration Building - 6201 W. Michigan Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48108
Precinct 2: Saline High School - 1300 Campus Parkway, Saline, MI 48176
Precincts 3 & 4 : Pittsfield Township Community Center - 701 W. Ellsworth Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48108
Precincts 6 & 7 : Carpenter School - 4250 Central Boulevard, Ann Arbor, MI 48108
Precincts 8 & 9: Arab American Cultural Center, aka Pittsfield Acres Academy - 4377 Textile Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

All polling locations are accessible to voters with disabilities. The voter assist terminal, Braille and audio instructions are also available in all polling locations. Absentee ballots are available for all elections; registered voters may contact the local clerk to obtain an application for an absent voter ballot.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF MILAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF CHANGING THE REGULAR CITY ODD YEAR ELECTIONS SCHEDULE TO THE IN EVEN YEAR ELECTION SCHEDULE.

The Milan City Council will hold a public hearing for the purpose of changing the regular city elections from the current odd year schedule to the even year to coincide with state and Federal Elections. The Public Hearing will be at the Regular Meeting of the Milan City Council on **Tuesday, October 21, 2025,** at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at City Hall, 147 Wabash St., Milan, Michigan. Citizens may appear to present written or oral comments and/or suggestions regarding said proposed change.

The Milan City Charter states in (1) Section 3.6 Regular Elections - "A regular City election shall be held on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November of every odd-numbered year." and (2) Section 3.10 Primary Elections - "Nonpartisan primary elections shall be held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in August of each odd-numbered year."

Michigan Election law MCL168.642(4) provides City Council with the ability by operation of law to move its odd-year City election to and consolidate it with the even-year elections after notice and a public hearing, to begin in the 2028 Election year.

If adopted, this change will add one year one time only to **EVERY** official to be elected on November 4, 2025, and the current elected city council and library board officials.

POSTED: October 12, 2025

SPECIAL NOTE:
The City of Milan will provide auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired, and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting to individuals with disabilities upon one week's notice to the City of Milan. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aid or services should contact the City of Milan by writing or calling the following:

Lavonna Wenzel, City Clerk
147 Wabash St., Milan, Michigan 48160
734-439-1501
Equal Opportunity Employer

NOTICE OF ELECTION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SUPERIOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2025

To the qualified electors of Charter Township of Superior:

Extended hours of registration at the Superior Township Hall will be: Wednesday, October 29, 2025, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Friday, October 31, 2025, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Saturday, November 1, 2025, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Notice is hereby given that a Special Election will be held in Charter Township of Superior on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the following locations:
Precinct 1-Dixboro Church, 5221 Church St., Ann Arbor
Precinct 2-Abundant Life Ministries Church, 855 E. Clark Road, Ypsilanti
Precinct 4 & 3-Christian Love Fellowship, 1601 Stamford, Ypsilanti
Precinct 5-Superior Township Hall, 3040 N. Prospect, Ypsilanti
An Absent Voter Count Board will also be located at the **Ypsilanti District Library - Superior Township** , 1900 Harris Road, Ypsilanti MI 48198.
Please take notice of the following proposal as presented and listed below:
Washtenaw Intermediate School District (WISD)
WASHTENAW INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT
AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROPOSAL

Shall Washtenaw Intermediate School District, Michigan, come under sections 681 to 690 of the Revised School Code, as amended, and establish an area career and technical education program, which is designed to encourage the operation of area career and technical education programs, if the annual property tax levied for this purpose is limited to 1 mill ($1.00 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 10 years, 2026 to 2035, inclusive; the estimate of the revenue the intermediate school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2026 is approximately $25,020,000 from local property taxes authorized herein?

The full text of the ballot proposal may be obtained at the Charter Township of Superior Clerk's Office, 3040 N. Prospect Rd., Ypsilanti, MI 48198. Sample ballots are available at www.mi.gov/vote.
Absentee ballots are available for all elections. Registered voters may contact the Township Clerk to obtain an application for an absent voter ballot.

To comply with the **Help America Vote Act (HAVA)** , voting instructions will be available in audio format and in Braille. Arrangements for obtaining these instructions in alternative formats can be made by contacting the Township Clerk in advance of the election.
All polling locations are accessible for voters with disabilities.

Angela Robinson, Clerk
Superior Charter Township
Washtenaw County, Michigan
(734) 482-6099

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Accuracy Test for the November 4, 2025 Special Election will be conducted on Wednesday, October 29, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. at Charter Township of Superior Hall located at 3040 N. Prospect Road, Superior Township, Michigan.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the computer programming and tabulating equipment to be used to count ballots for this election, and the Voter Assist Terminal (VAT) ballot-marking device, have been prepared and tested in accordance with law.

Charter Township of Superior will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities upon four (4) business days' notice to the Township. Individuals requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Township Clerk in writing.

This notice is posted in compliance with Public Act 267 of 1976, as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCL 15.261 et seq., MCL 41.72a(2)–(3), and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Angela Robinson, Clerk
Charter Township of Superior 3040 N. Prospect Road
Superior Township, MI 48198
(734) 482-6099
arobinson@superior-twp.org

INVITATION TO BID SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICES PITTSFIELD CHARTER TOWNSHIP October 10, 2025

Pittsfield Charter Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan, is soliciting bids to provide for the collection and disposal of residential solid waste and recycling services throughout the Township.

Bids are being solicited only from responsible and established bidders known to be experienced and regularly engaged in the work of solid waste collection and recycling services. Bidders will be required to provide satisfactory evidence that they possess the necessary capital, equipment, personnel, and experience to perform the work.

Bid Submission and Opening
Sealed bids must be submitted on the bid forms furnished by the Township.

Submission Deadline: Monday, November 10, 2025
Clerk's Office – Pittsfield Charter Township
6201 W. Michigan Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Bid Opening: 11:00 A.M., Monday, November 10, 2025
Pittsfield Charter Township Administration Building
6201 W. Michigan Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Bids shall be submitted in sealed envelopes and plainly marked: **"SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING BID – PITTSFIELD CHARTER TOWNSHIP."**

Bid Security
All bids must be accompanied by a bid bond, bank cashier's check, bank draft, or certified check in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the first-year contract total, made payable to **Pittsfield Charter Township** as security for the acceptance of the contract.

Bid Documents and Specifications
Bid forms and specifications are on file for inspection at the Pittsfield Charter Township Offices, 6201 W. Michigan Avenue, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108. Copies may be obtained by qualified bidders.

A copy of the complete **Request for Proposals (RFP)** is also available upon request by calling **(734) 822-3106** or emailing smithl@pittsfield-mi.gov.

Reservation of Rights
The Township Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to accept any bid which, in its opinion, is most advantageous to the Township.

Billy Weirich
Utilities Director
Pittsfield Charter Township

MERCHANDISE

Auctions & Auctioneers

2023 John Deere Model Z920M Gas Zero Turn Lawn Mower with 25 hours * 1997 Rexhall Aerbus 28' Motor Home * 1994 Bluefin Spectrum Open Hull Aluminum 18'6" Boat with 120 HP Force Motor * Firearms incl. Marlin, Stevens, Montgomery Ward, Glock, etc. * Tools & Equipment incl. Generator, Lincoln Welder, Machinist Chest, Shop and Wood Working, Tool Boxes * Toys incl. Battery Op * Items of Interest * Antiques incl. Magic Lantern & Porcelain Table with Chairs* Vintage Beer Mirrors * Antique Instruments * Cast Iron Cookware * Lawn and Garden Related * Model Trains * U of M Related * Cyclone Rake Vacuum System * Much More! Thur Oct 16th @ 10am 5121 Michigan Ave., Tipton, MI Questions? Call David Helmer 734.368.1733 Details: BraunandHelmer.com Braun and Helmer Auction Service Inc.

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11011 Hi Tech Dr.
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19th Century Antiques: Clocks, Bronzes, Bottles, Ephemera, Furniture & Tons of Unique Treasures. Thousands of New in Box Christmas Ornaments, Decor & Huge Dept. Store Santa Displays. Everything sells regardless of price.
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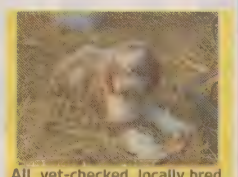
Knapp Real Estate Auction
1555 Baker Rd.
Dexter MI 48130
Thurs. Oct. 30,@ 11:00 am.
Open Houses: Tues. Oct. 14th & 21st from 5 to 7:00pm. or by aapt. w Auctioneer
This Home is on 4.56 Acres and has 3 Bedrooms (1 Main Floor and 2 Upstairs) Large Kitchen w Dining space. One 1st floor Bathroom, Family room, Formal Dining room w/ open window to the Kitchen, Basement w/ Newer Furnace & Water Heater (2021) Laundry room and Root Cellar House and Garage has newer roof
2.5 Car Garage
30X50 Pole Barn
This Property has a large back yard w/ mature tree's lining the sides going to a running creek in the back.
Near I-94 Expressway and 5 minutes from downtown Dexter.
Questions? Call or Text Brian L. Braun at (734) 368-1736
brianlloydbraun@gmail.com, braunandhelmer.com

Garage Sales

EVERYTHING MUST GO! Lots of tools, chain saw, bikes & lots of misc. Three car ports full. Sat., Oct 11 & Sun., Oct. 12 8am-6pm 1184 Georgina Dr., Ypsilanti.

PETS & FARMS



All vet-checked, locally bred puppies on sale! Yorkies $899, Cockapoo $599, Yorkie mixes $699-799. Mini Goldendoodles, Frenchies and others. View pups at Petcitypets.com. Ypsilanti. 734-487-0800. Come see the difference!

Corso/Dane Great Dane, Cane Corso mix. Smart, beautiful puppies. Very large, crate trained, first vet visit, shots and wormed. We have 4 left, 3 males and 1 female. No rehoming fee. Call or text (810)569-7093. 810-569-7093

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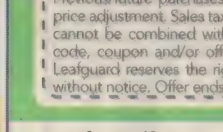
Ford, 04, Taurus- has only 107,000 miles, new water pump, timing-chain alternator, oil pan, six CD player/priced to sell $2,400 or best offer 734-730-7810.

2011 JEEP LIBERTY 4X4 WAGON, Very clean inside & out. new tires, lady owned. $6500. Call (734)695-0819

1999 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL. Tennessee car. Like new. NO Rust. $6500. 734- 695-0819

1993 LINCOLN TOWN CAR. Florida car, senior owned. Very low miles. No rust, $6500 OBO. 734- 695-0819

Wanted Vehicles



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Mingwei Yan PLLC seeks Legal translator. Require Mandarin Chinese speaking, listening, reading, and writing. In house position at Ann Arbor, MI. Send resumes to 455 E Eisenhower Pkwy Suite 300, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108

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Education

Research Specialist for University of Michigan (Ann Arbor). Requires Bachelor's in biology--based field, including Biomedical Engineering + 2 yrs researching human stem cell differentiation using immunohistochemistry, fluorescence microscopy, & quantitative image analysis; & developing micropatterning processes on various substrates for human pluripotent stem cells (hPSC) using photolithography & other techniques. Resume to Jackie Shilling: jsshill@med.umich.edu. The University of Michigan is an equal opportunity employer. Backgr. check & drug screen req'd upon offer acceptance.

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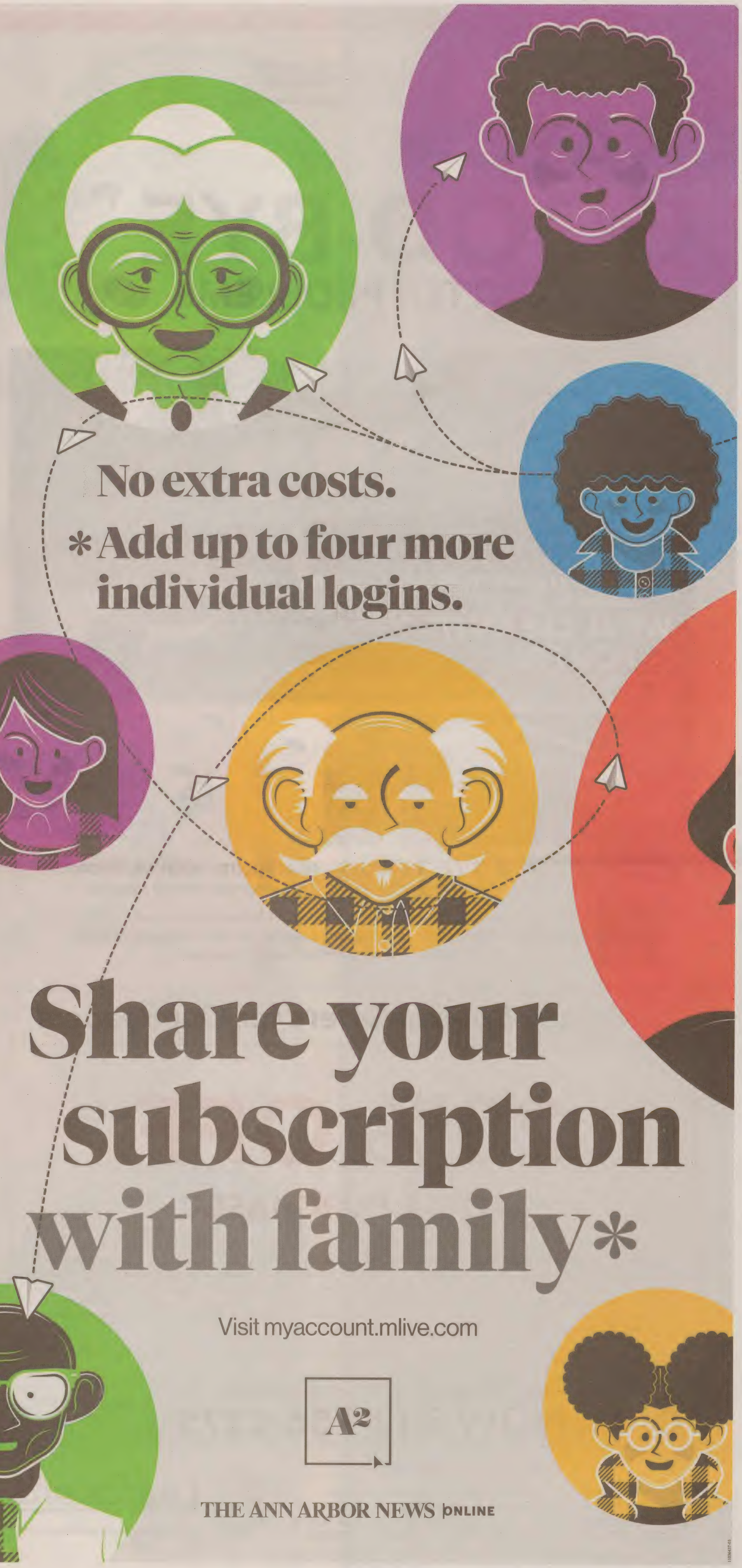

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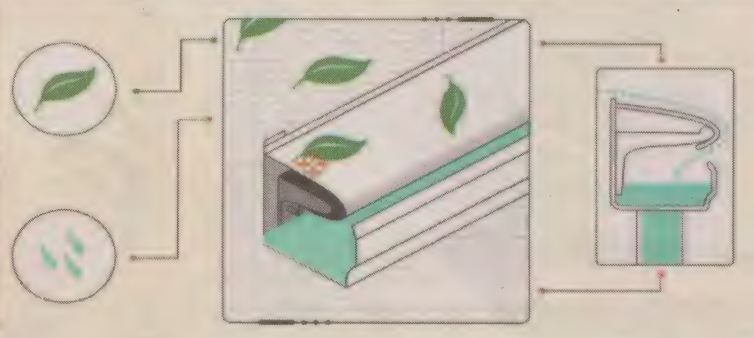

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*Does not include cost of material This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Leafguard or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Previous/future purchases are not eligible for a discount or sale price adjustment. Sales tax does not qualify for discount. This offer cannot be combined with any other sale, promotion, discount, code, coupon and/or offer. This promotion has no cash value. Leafguard reserves the right to end any promotion at any time without notice. Offer ends 10/31/25.

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OPINION

The High Line in New York City is a unique, 1.5-mile rail trail built on an abandoned elevated railway. *Reena Rose Sibayan, The Jersey Journal file*

COMMENTARY

Meet us on the rail trail

The growing network of former railroads converted into trails is place to gather as Americans, not partisans.

Tommy Thompson and Howard Dean
For The Washington Post

An Amish buggy emerges from a covered bridge at sunrise on the Maple Highlands Trail, a rail trail on the former Baltimore & Ohio Railroad near Middlefield, Ohio. The trail is shared by hikers, cyclists and horse-drawn buggies. *Tim Warsinskey, Advance Local*

Life in much of America today seems fractured, offering fewer opportunities for people to meet, mingle and feel part of the same community. But there is at least one exception: local rail trails — quiet, leafy greenways that follow the paths trains once traveled.

Over the past six decades, a citizen-led movement has transformed more than 26,000 miles of abandoned rail corridors into thousands of public paths for walking, biking and recreation. Tens of millions of people use these trails each year - in the countryside, in small towns and in big cities. This successful effort to convert rails to trails has never belonged to just one political party.

We know this because we've lived it; rail trails have been important to both our lives. One of us (Thompson) grew up along the nation's first rail trail: the Elroy-Sparta State Trail in Wisconsin, which ran through his family farm. The other (Dean) helped create the Island Line Trail in Vermont, which swings from Burlington out onto a causeway far into Lake Champlain.

It was Thompson's father who helped bring the Elroy-Sparta trail to life, setting in motion a project that revived local communities and became a model for the nation. And it was Dean whose leadership helped secure a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that validated the concept of saving rail corridors.

These trails do more than repurpose land. They restore communities. They promote health, tourism and local business. They give Americans a place to meet as neighbors, not partisans.

To be sure, the trails are rarely made without disagreement. Property rights disputes, funding battles and local opposition can make creating even the shortest path an uphill climb. Repeatedly, though, disagreements have given way to cooperation. It takes work to come together, but the result is worth it.

The story of this movement is told in a one-hour public television documentary, "From Rails to Trails," premiering Oct. 15. The program chronicles the unlikely coalitions that fought to save abandoned railroads and the people who turned them into something enduring. We are proud to appear in it.

A WORK IN PROGRESS

But this story is not finished. Today, many promising trail projects are stalled or underfunded. From the QueensWay in New York to the Great Redwood Trail in California, residents are still working to transform unused corridors into public spaces.

The most ambitious of them all — the Great American Rail-Trail, envisioned as a 3,700-mile route connecting Washington, D.C., to Washington state — is halfway complete. In each case, the need is urgent for safer places to walk and bike, new green space for growing cities, and fresh opportunities for local economies.

> These trails do more than repurpose land. They restore communities. They promote health, tourism and local business. They give Americans a place to meet.

At a time when the national conversation is polarized, rail trails remind us of another American tradition: cooperation. The railroads helped build our great nation, and today their legacy is helping to reconnect and revitalize it.

Step onto a rail trail in your community, and you'll see parents teaching children to ride bikes, retirees walking together at sunset and neighbors greeting neighbors. These trails are not red or blue, but green — and they belong to all of us.

Thompson, a Republican, is a former governor of Wisconsin. Dean, a Democrat, is a former governor of Vermont. This was written for The Washington Post.

Source: Rails to Trails Conservancy

OPINION

Illustration by Chris Morris, Advance Local, Shutterstock

POLITICS

A conservative's call to quell the vitriol and violence

George Zadigian
For The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer

As a conservative for over 40 years, I'm compelled to call out fellow conservatives for driving divisions among us and stoking violence. When tragedy strikes, like a shooting or assassination, all should know to restrain impulses to disparage the deceased and refrain from a rush to judgment.

Tragically, our nation's leaders — President Donald Trump and Vice President JD Vance — chose to quickly and very publicly blame the "radical left" (Trump) and "the crazy left-wing radicals that gunned down our friend Charlie Kirk" (Vance).

Trump went on to call fellow citizens who oppose his policies "scum" and "vicious and horrible," then went on to angrily say at the memorial for Kirk, "I hate my opponents, and I don't want the best for them."

This is no way for a president and senior members of an administration to speak.

It is driving divisions among us even deeper, setting an example of incendiary speech that some may find acceptable and choose to mimic, driving threats and political violence.

While Trump says, "he couldn't care less" if his speech offends, perhaps all of us ought to consider how disparaging comments may ripple and produce consequences far beyond our intention.

While President Trump says, "he couldn't care less" if his speech offends, perhaps all of us ought to consider how disparaging comments may ripple and produce consequences far beyond our intention.

We also have a right and responsibility to let elected officials know we expect them to live up to higher standards and to show respect toward all.

TRUMP'S TRAGIC CHOICE

Tragically, Trump has also chosen to use Kirk's assassination to label left-leaning groups, like antifa, "domestic terrorists." Frankly, while a few individuals advocating for antifa have acted violently, antifa is an anti-fascist group, whose mission is to call out authoritarian conduct.

Tragically, Republican responses to the Occupy movement, Black Lives Matter and Antifa have been to target them, rather than listening to their legitimate grievances and taking steps to address those grievances.

To quell violence, we also need our president and Republicans in Congress to stop inciting violence not only through their words but also the policies they've either implemented or sat quietly by while these policies were implemented by Trump.

While saying he wants to reduce crime, Trump has rescinded funding for gun violence prevention programs, relaxed commonsense gun control laws and worked to undermine the Affordable Care Act, the only law that requires health care plans to include mental health care. He did this while rescinding funding for local police, only to then impose federal troops in Los Angeles, Washington and Chicago. The deployment of these troops, under dubious circumstances and legality, are unsettling to many, and are stoking tensions.

The harsh treatment of law-abiding immigrants by masked Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents, at peaceful settings like courthouses, churches, schools and places of employment, has stoked indignation and sharp responses to the way the administration is managing immigration. Conservative principles call me to condemn the president's cruel treatment of innocent people and his doubling down with federal troops to suppress opposition.

REMEMBER OUR BASIC TRUTH

If "Republicans" wish to quell violence, they must stop feeding conditions that cause people to become destitute, like taking away tax incentives to cover premiums for health insurance, stoking inflation through tariffs, creating economic instability and accompanying loss of jobs, and firing people who have been doing a good job working on the public's behalf.

So, if fellow conservatives genuinely want to see peace in our country, let us recall what makes us American and remember that, "All men are created equal and endowed by their Creator with unalienable Rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." And, if we still hold that proposition to be true, hopefully we will use it to not only guide our words, but as a plumb line by which to measure what policies and leaders are worthy of supporting.

Zadigian is an engineering program manager who has written about economic and social justice issues for 20 years. He writes from Alliance, Ohio.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

'Blink Kid' sighs for America — calm down about Bad Bunny at Super Bowl

No need for manufactured outrage — there are plenty of real problems to be upset about.

John Hiner *jhiner@mlive.com*

My go-to meme when absurdity melts my brain is "Blink Kid" — a school photo turned GIF in which a smirking boy blinks slowly, like, Really?

That's been my face all week watching the cultural meltdown over the NFL announcing Latino singer Bad Bunny as the Super Bowl LX halftime performer.

If you missed it, conservative America is acting like this is a desecration of ... what, exactly? A football game that's already an over-inflated spectacle?

We're talking about 20 minutes of entertainment you can ignore while refilling nachos or hitting the john.

The outrage makes it sound like this is happening at Arlington National Cemetery, funded by taxpayers.

Spoiler: it's not.

Name one Bad Bunny song. I can't — and I'm fairly up on current music, thanks to my kids and satellite radio.

Even if you can, most Americans wouldn't understand the lyrics because he sings in Spanish.

WHY THE ANGER?

He's from Puerto Rico — a U.S. territory, though you wouldn't know it from some of the commentary.

Civics update: Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens.

Bad Bunny is also unapologetically himself — sometimes in skirts, sometimes pushing cultural boundaries. His last world tour had only one U.S. stop because he worried about ICE deportation raids at his concerts. That's solidarity, not scandal.

And let's be honest, the skirts aren't the issue. David Bowie, Tim Curry, RuPaul — gender nonconforming artists have been part of pop culture for at least half a century.

This outrage is about two things — anti-diversity sentiment and distraction.

Why talk about a government shutdown when you can rage about a brown artist "threatening" American exceptionalism during a football game? Or when the national spotlight can be redirected from real problems — like the military occupying major U.S. cities?

I mean, for goodness's sake! Why isn't the national media talking about the massive corn dog recall because wood splinters are in the batter? That seems like a more pressing threat to the American way of life.

WHAT ABOUT LAST YEAR?

Cue the Blink Kid. C'mon — America's problems aren't caused by halftime shows.

If you're steamed because a talking head told you to be, here's a question: Who performed last year?

Bad Bunny performs during Night One of Bad Bunny: "No Me Quiero Ir De Aqui" Residencia En El Choli at Coliseo de Puerto Rico José Miguel Agrelot on July 11 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. *Photo by Kevin Mazur/Getty Images*

Answer: the Black rapper Kendrick Lamar. He faced the same "collapse of America" predictions. He put on an epic red, white, and blue stage show with a nontraditional narrative.

America survived. So did you.

Maybe it's time to stop letting outrage be our national pastime. Blink Kid suggests we take a breath and let it go.

America's fine — let's save our anger for something that actually matters.

John Hiner is president of MLive Media Group. If you have questions you'd like him to answer, or topics to explore for a future column, share your thoughts at editor@mlive.com.

ADVICE

ASKING ERIC

Intergenerational work besties get stink eye from others

Dear Eric: I am a mid-60s married woman. I have been in a deep friendship for a couple of years with a married male colleague in his 30s. Neither of us is each other's supervisor.

There is no romantic connection, but we are very much best friends, and we adore each other. We share much in common, such as interests outside work.

We text each other a ton and have so much fun spending time or talking with each other. We are also very supportive and love each other, but in a platonic way. Our spouses know of our deep friendship and neither has expressed a problem. Neither of us have hidden anything from our spouses.

I have friends who think my friendship with my male friend is inappropriate. He has friends who have said the same. We don't dare invite each other to social events where we might normally invite a good friend of the same gender and age group.

Is what we are doing wrong? Should we end our friendship? Is this an age thing? A gender thing? Should we say to hell with others and act like BFFs and invite each other to social events? I am so confused as he is my best friend. *BFF*

Dear BFF: Tell your naysaying friends to back off and butt out. Respectfully. Or not! They're problematizing a perfectly normal, innocent friendship and, in so doing, creating drama where there needn't be any.

Let's look at the facts: you and your BFF have a deep connection. What a gift to find a friend in this life. You're clear about where you stand and neither has muddled or inappropriate feelings. You have open communication with your spouses. So, no one who has any real stake in the relationship has a problem with it. The friends who are giving their commentary don't have a penny in that nickel, as the saying goes. So, their two cents aren't worth much.

If I had to guess, I'd say you're right: it's probably an age and gender thing. Maybe your friends haven't seen platonic intergenerational friendship or healthy friendship between a man and a woman. But just because they haven't witnessed it, doesn't mean it doesn't exist. This is a good lesson for all kinds of situations: just because you're unfamiliar with something, doesn't mean it doesn't exist or is wrong.

So, invite your BFF out if you want. Have fun and don't let your other friends dim your shine. Perhaps they're the ones who should skip a social event or two.

Dear Eric: My brother and I are both in our late 60s. We're close and I consider his wife a good friend of mine.

I discovered that my brother is engaging in some pretty questionable interactions on the social feed Threads. He's been replying to quite a few posts by barely clothed women, complimenting them, saying he would like to date them, and asking them to DM him.

Putting ethics aside, I am concerned that these posts will somehow reach his wife, or his two adult children. I know my sister-in-law would be pretty upset by seeing what her husband does online.

Should I tell my brother that I've seen these posts on Threads, and tell him that these posts are visible to each and every "follower" of his on Threads? He's fairly naive when it comes to digital privacy and may be operating under the impression that his friends do not see his interactions with these women. *Worried Sister*

Dear Sister: Oh dear, you pull this thread and who knows what will unravel. But you should tell him. And tell him to knock it off.

Dear Eric: A few years ago, we started seeing old friends. We meet them once a month for dinner. After a month or two, the wife started calling me every two weeks on the same day and time. We have come to realize that they are both self-centered people who go on and on about themselves. I can take the dinner but am tired of the phone calls. I have made excuses for the times that she was calling but she keeps trying new times. How can I get her to stop calling? *Hung Up*

Dear Hung Up: You need to put yourself on a one-person Do Not Call list. Tell her, "I notice we've fallen into a pattern of regular phone calls, but I find that that's not working for me. Let's catch up at dinner instead."

You are not required to enjoy talking on the phone.

One last thing. It sounds from your letter that you're putting up with these dinners rather than enjoying them. Ask yourself if this is really the way you want to spend your time. It's OK for friendships to grow, change, and, at times, fade.

Send questions to R. Eric Thomas at eric@askingeric.com

CAROLYN HAX

Denied a lucrative listing, agent sells out friendship

Dear Carolyn: One of my closest friends — though I may not have ranked that high with her — told me she was going to sell her expensive beach house herself, as opposed to listing it with an agent, whom I expected to be me.

She created a digital marketing campaign and website and asked me one question, which I stupidly chose not to answer: "Do you think $XX is a little high?" Since she was selling it herself, I did not view it as appropriate to comment on her pricing.

I then told a few mutual friends she was making a big mistake trying to sell a high-end house with no agent. This eventually got back to her, and she stopped communicating with me.

When I tried to get the friendship back on track with a friendly email, she told me she had heard from a number of friends that I was bad-mouthing her decisions, and that she was disappointed I declined to provide any opinion of her price based on market data, despite many commissions she had steered to me over the years.

In the rearview mirror, I see that my disappointment in not getting her listing led me to say a few things I wish I hadn't. (She did sell it herself.)

Do I let time pass and try again? How do I come to terms with losing a 30-year friend? *Regretful Realtor*

Regretful Realtor: I don't see anywhere in your letter that you apologized to your friend — for withholding help or bad-mouthing her.

The only outreach you mention is your "friendly email."

If that's accurate, no apology, then handing this over to time now would make you 0-for-4.

Meaning, in four chances to own this and do the right thing, you will have chosen a dodge all four times — a different one each time, but dodges nonetheless.

Dodge 1: Spitefully refusing to help your friend instead of telling her the truth, "I'm disappointed not to get the listing." For the record, you both had an out: Hers was not to do business with friends, and yours was not to give away your expertise — though if she did in fact steer business your way, then turning her down was petty.

Dodge 2: Bad-mouthing her to friends, again reaching for payback over the harder-to-voice truth of your hurt feelings.

Dodge 3: That disingenuous email. Instead of admitting you sold her out, you played dumb and left it to her to spell out what she knew. (Hey, why cop to it all if you didn't have to!!)

Dodge 4: Deferring to "time," also known as avoiding the subject.

If I'm wrong about this and you have indeed owned your errors in full (which includes apologies, by the way, to mutual friends you put in the middle), then it's my turn to say I'm sorry — for the 128-word pile-on for a mistake you didn't make.

Once you've expressed remorse, letting "time pass" stops being evasive and becomes a sign of respect, allowing the recipient to respond to your apology — or not - without pressure.

Not knowing whether you apologized, I'm leaving the final answer to you and your capacity to be honest with yourself.

You certainly know you made bad choices, nothing new there for the average human. But you owe it to yourself to ask when and why your priorities got so out of whack that a listing — in other words, *getting mine* — mattered more than the way you treated friends.

And why at the first couple of turns, maybe more, you chose to do an underhanded or evasive thing instead of telling a difficult truth.

What happens to your 30-year friendship is largely up to your friend now. But you control how deeply you choose to reflect on your actions, and what changes you make to yourself.

Email Carolyn at tellme@washpost.com

DEAR ANNIE

Peace of mind is possible

Dear Annie: Families Anonymous could be a great help to many of the people who write in to you. The program is most often associated with families dealing with loved ones who struggle with addiction, but I discovered it has value in many other situations as well.

I first attended Families Anonymous because I was overwhelmed with anxiety about my son not finding employment after graduating from college. I spent sleepless nights worrying, replaying every possibility and trying to solve something that was not mine to fix.

Through Families Anonymous meetings and literature, I began to understand that I could not control his choices or outcomes. What I could control was my own peace of mind and how I chose to respond.

The lessons were simple but powerful. By trying to manage his life, I was not helping him, and I was only hurting myself. Letting go of that unproductive worry gave me freedom and strength. It also allowed me to show up for my son with calm support instead of constant fear.

Even if in-person meetings are not available nearby, Families Anonymous offers excellent books and pamphlets that can be ordered online. For anyone weighed down by the struggles of loved ones, this program provides both comfort and practical tools for healthier living. *Family Anonymous*

Dear Family Anonymous: Thank you for sharing this resource. Families Anonymous can be a lifeline for people weighed down by the choices of loved ones, whether the issue is addiction, unemployment or simply the anxiety of wanting to fix what we cannot control. You are right. Their literature and meetings offer perspective, comfort and a gentle reminder that our peace of mind matters, too.

I am grateful you wrote in. I know other readers will benefit from your experience.

Dear Annie: I feel like I am constantly being pulled in too many directions, and I do not know how to handle it anymore. Between work, raising kids, caring for aging parents and trying to keep some sort of social life, I am stretched so thin that I am starting to feel resentful. My friends and family all seem to assume I will say yes whenever they need something, whether it is babysitting, covering an extra shift or hosting yet another family get-together. If I do say no, I am made to feel guilty, like I am being selfish. The truth is, I am exhausted. I want to be there for the people I care about, but I also know I cannot keep running myself into the ground.

How do I set boundaries without pushing people away or feeling like the bad guy? *Overwhelmed and Worn Out*

Dear Overwhelmed: You are not selfish, and you are not the bad guy. You are simply human, and like everyone else, you only have so much energy to give. Boundaries are not walls that shut people out; they are fences that protect your well-being so you can show up as your best self. Start small.

The next time someone asks for a favor you truly cannot manage, try saying, "I wish I could, but I just do not have the bandwidth right now." That is a complete sentence, and it does not require apology or explanation.

The people who truly value you will respect your honesty. The guilt you feel comes from a lifetime of always saying yes, but it will lessen over time as you learn that taking care of yourself is not only necessary but healthy.

Follow Annie Lane on Instagram at @dearannieofficial. Visit http://www.creatorspublishing.com for more information. Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

THE ACES ON BRIDGE
BARRY RIGAL

Dear Mr. Rigal: What would you do with SPADES A-Q-10-8-4, HEARTS 8, DIAMONDS K-7, CLUBS A-Q-8-7-2, no one vulnerable, when the bidding starts with one heart on your right, two hearts (spades and a minor) from you, four spades from partner and five diamonds from opener? *Maximal, Memphis, Tenn.*

ANSWER: I would double to show extra values. This does not cancel the meaning of my Michaels cue bid, so partner can judge whether to bid five spades (if he has a distributional hand with a big fit) or pass (as he will on most hands). I expect we were making four spades, so we have to protect our game bonus.

Dear Mr. Rigal: What is the point range for raising partner's one-heart or one-spade opening to game? *Preemptive, Albany, Ga.*

ANSWER: Partner could have a strong hand, so you must not crowd the auction with a jump to the four-level if your hand is suitable for slam. In principle, the bid shows a weak hand with a big fit; you could have a 0-count with five-card support and some shape. On the other end of the scale, you could have as much as a 9-count with too much shape for a nonforcing limit raise. Any more than that, and you would either splinter or bid two no-trump, Jacoby. One way to reduce the ambiguity is to use a jump to three no-trump as a shapely raise to game, better than a preemptive hand.

Dear Mr. Rigal: How would you handle the suit combination of A-10-6-2 facing J-8-7-4, needing three tricks? *Close Call, Charlottesville, Va.*

ANSWER: The best line is to run the eight on the first round. Assuming that forces an honor, finesse the six on the second. This picks up any holding with both an honor and the nine onside, which outweighs the alternative play of finessing the 10. Replace the six with the three, though, and leading low to the 10 is better since you cannot pick up as many 4-1 splits by the first line proposed above.

Dear Mr. Rigal: What is the SOS convention, and when does it apply? *Life Jacket, Little Rock, Ark.*

ANSWER: The SOS redouble is used as a rescue attempt when your side has been doubled for penalty. It normally applies only at low levels, and not when you have already agreed on the suit in question. It asks partner to remove to another strain. Typically, until an opponent has passed a takeout double or made a penalty double over a suit bid, it would not be in play.

Dear Mr. Rigal: I had this hand: SPADES 10-6-2, HEARTS A-10-4-3, DIAMONDS A-Q-7, CLUBS J-9-4, and I responded one heart to partner's club opening. He rebid one no-trump. I raised to two no-trump, and we went one down for minus 50. Did I do wrong? *Color Coded, Durango, Colo.*

ANSWER: With two aces and two 10s, I can see inviting game — even with the bad shape. But nonvulnerable, I think I would go low and pass one no-trump, especially if partner is known to open light. Vulnerable, the hefty game bonus would persuade me to issue an invitation. Another factor is whether your partnership's no-trump range is a strict 15-17 or includes good 14-counts.

Yes, Mom would laugh at the comic strip. Send it to her.

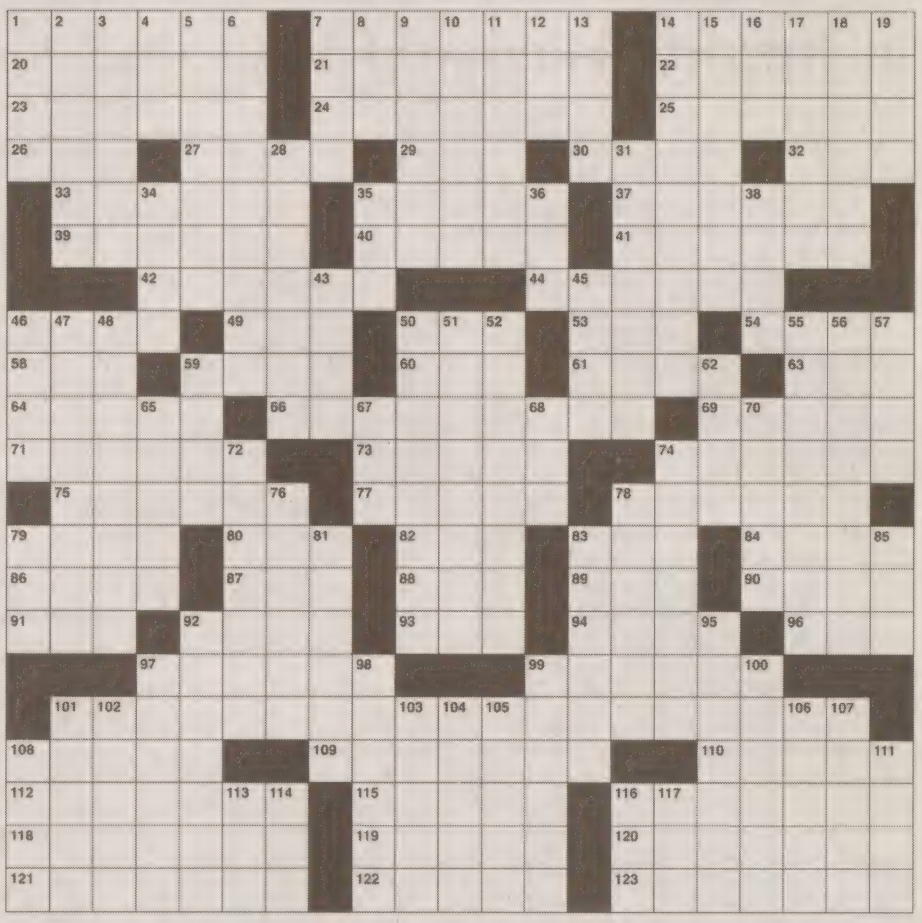
Subscribe today!

PUZZLES

NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY CROSSWORD

No. 1005

"Central Perk" By Rich Katz



ACROSS

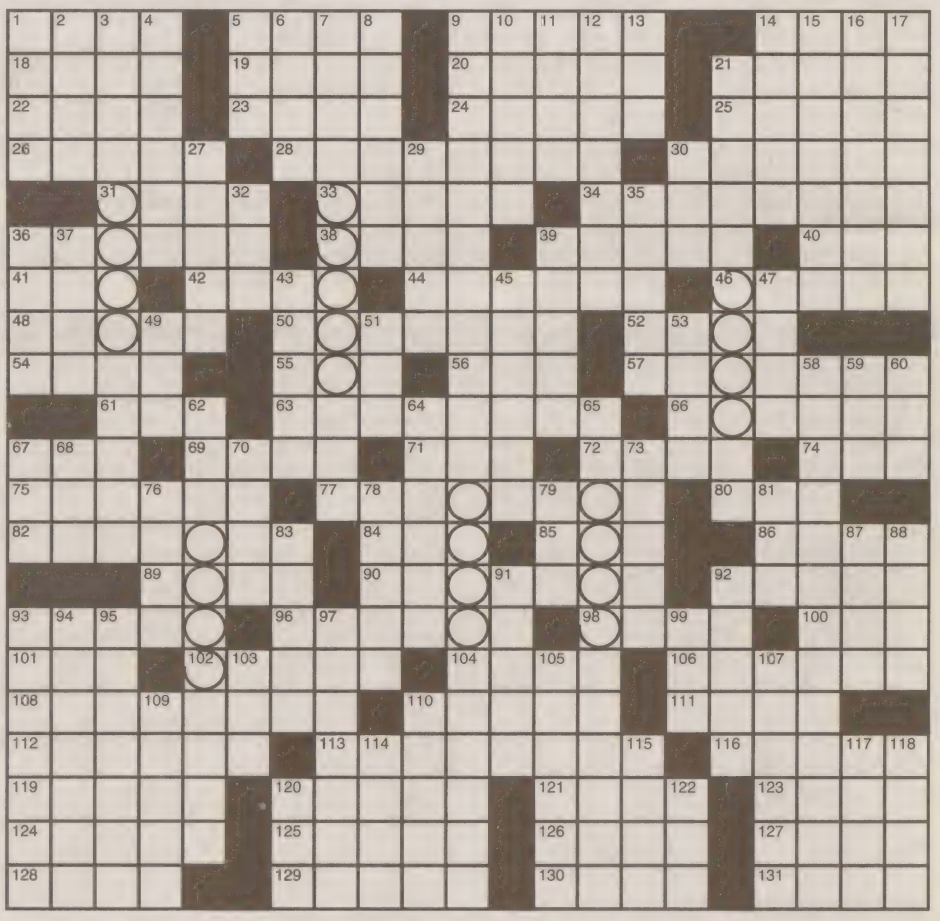
1 Caveat ____ ("Buyer beware")
7 Spice that's characteristic of Hungarian cooking
14 Marvel Comics mutant who can freeze his own body
20 Arizona county or Indigenous people
21 Tries some water, say
22 Like a win-win situation
23 ____ law, concept in computing technology
24 Alternative to a nanny
25 Fire starters
26 Contents of a flagon
27 Ole Miss athletes, to fans
29 X
30 ____ Scott, who the Supreme Court said was not free to sue for his freedom
32 Org. not getting many happy returns?
33 Remove surgically, as tissue
35 "They tell me ..."
37 Beethoven symphony originally intended to honor Napoleon
39 Class that might cause some high schoolers to blush
40 Sprawling Indian metropolis
41 Like some bridges
42 "Let me check on that"
44 Expiates, with "for"
46 Man's name that's 49-Across plus a letter
49 Woman's name that's the first three letters of 46-Across
50 Rap battle participants
53 Tampa Bay athlete, in brief
54 Twists off course, as a ship
58 Witch
59 Exploited
60 "Weekend Update" co-host Michael
61 All over again
63 ____Guessr, hit online game whose players deduce locations from Google Street View images
64 Where a hurricane forms
66 Wish someone "Happy Birthday," perhaps
69 At dawn, say
71 Mammal with long whiskers
73 Extra
74 They stand for art
75 Called
77 ____ Day, Billie Holiday's portrayer in "The United States vs. Billie Holiday"
78 Celebréity chef Ina
79 Demanding entertainer
80 X
82 He was né Clay
83 Watchdog's warning
84 Words of understanding
86 Outback baby
87 Familiar initialism coined by a U.S. Air Force captain
88 Do-over at Wimbledon
89 Kind of sauce at a sushi bar
90 Sewer in American history
91 "Weekend Update" show, for short
92 Zipped
93 Like some alcohol ... or places that prohibit alcohol
94 Not present and not excused, for short
96 Foreign policy grp.
97 Brezhnev of the Soviet Union
99 Cherokee and Cheyenne
101 Relationship featuring casual intimacy ... or a hint to six pairs of intersecting answers in this puzzle
108 Starbucks competitor
109 Spot for an ornament
110 Giants in California and New York
112 "Beat it!"
115 Actor Wilson of "The Office"
116 Rye, e.g.
118 "Wouldn't miss it for the world!"
119 Like slow filers and fast drivers, at times
120 Furniture retailer owned by Williams-Sonoma
121 Lives (in)
122 Iditarod transports
123 Involves

DOWN

1 Title heroine described as "handsome, clever and rich, with a comfortable home and happy disposition"
2 Dough
3 Fly-catching bird with a name derived from Greek
4 Driveway goo
5 As a whole
6 Moves elsewhere
7 Tenured profs, often
8 Small battery ... or an org. that might help with a battery
9 It's all in your head
10 Mother of Joseph and Benjamin, in the Bible
11 Book after Song of Solomon
12 French cocktail made with crème de cassis
13 Mirrored
14 Reasoned conclusion
15 Brewski
16 Bulldog fan in Connecticut
17 Santa ____
18 Stellar
19 Van ____ Avenue, thoroughfare in San Francisco
28 Minds one's P's and Q's
31 Contribute (to), as one's reputation
34 Been asleep, say
35 Texter's "Beats me"
36 Small inlet
38 Li'l
43 One-named singer born in Nigeria
45 Skier's conveyance
46 Online site for D.I.Y.ers
47 Time out, perhaps
48 Info commonly shown on a board game box
50 Clown around with food?
51 City SE of Phoenix
52 Purpose of some cameras
55 Reaches a shared opinion about
56 Holistic contentment
57 Some beans or sauces
59 "E pluribus ____"
62 Sport
65 Matrix
67 Sun bloc?
68 Pretty ____ picture
70 Moving around
72 Attack
74 You can put a ring on it
76 Back
78 Came back, as hair
79 Music's Fatboy Slim and David Guetta, informally
81 Error message on a Blu-ray device
83 Targeted (to)
85 Key for a quick exit
92 Boils with rage
95 Liberal-leaning
97 Chinese "nut" that's really a fruit
98 Makes small in comparison
99 Government debt obligations, familiarly
100 40 winks
101 ____ fatale
102 Gets 40 winks
103 Letter-shaped train track piece
104 "To ____ own self be true"
105 Sharpened
106 George of "Star Trek"
107 Bad thing to discover in the pantry
108 AA or JJ, e.g.
111 Jazz singer Sylvia ____
113 Come to
114 "For sure"
116 Org. that merged with the U.F.C. in 2023
117 Kind of party

LOS ANGELES TIMES SUNDAY CROSSWORD

"Built To Scale" By Doug Peterson



Across

1 Sandos with two spreads
5 Restaurant chain co-founded by chef Matsuhisa
9 Star's entourage
14 "You know you want to!"
18 Floor plan unit
19 Country with a Persian-speaking majority
20 Operational launch time
21 Yours, in hymns
22 Unoriginal reply
23 Checkbook no.
24 Flanged support pieces
25 Actress Bailey
26 Big Apple team
28 Alpine course
30 Spoke like a boxer
31 Explorer Erikson
33 Into the latest gadgets
34 Call made behind one's back?
36 Stayed in line
38 Div. of Labor
39 Williams with four Olympic gold medals
40 Holiday cusp
41 Hoppy beer
42 Snatch quickly
44 Specter
46 Ready for a break
48 Lake near Carson City
50 Charcuterie board selections
52 Retired record holder?
54 Production
55 Omega preceder
56 Activist Yoko
57 Stick on a pub wall
61 Multivolume ref.
63 Herb on a bánh mì sandwich
66 Govt. securities
67 Capacious craft
69 Rescue op
71 Knock, in slang
72 Artemis org.
74 "__ complicated"
75 Can refuse to
77 Treats flavored with syrup
80 River project
82 Went in circles
84 Siglo de __: era of El Greco and Cervantes
85 Patterned after
86 Long-legged wader
89 Billy of "Titanic"
90 Fortnite Frenz 4 Ever Blaster, for one
92 Select with a mouse
93 Milk source in the Sahara
96 Mural on plaster
98 Subject that includes set theory
100 Prefix with natal
101 USPS abbr.
102 __ Loops
104 Court target
106 Barely sufficient
108 Subject that includes gender theory
110 Islanders' NHL division, familiarly
111 Animation collectibles
112 Stumble over
113 List of specialized terms
116 "Dos Mujeres" painter
119 Football features
120 Scrub, as a mission
121 Sporty car roof
123 Dish in a bowl
124 "My stars!"
125 Episcopal figure
126 Stealthy flyers
127 Clark from Smallville
128 Wildlife refuges
129 Walled Spanish city
130 Dig like a pig
131 Seeks information

Down

1 Salmon, to bears
2 __ Raton
3 "Boom Boom" blues legend
4 "__ and the Bandit"
5 "Candyman" director DaCosta
6 Brutish Tolkien characters
7 Approach that emphasizes fundamentals
8 Disentangles
9 Group that can play a symphony
10 "I can't wait!"
11 Stuff in a pump bottle
12 Guaranteed winner
13 Workplaces for triage nurses: Abbr.
14 Leafy vegetable
15 More opalescent
16 Ashore, perhaps
17 Mocked playfully
21 "What a shame"
27 Sustained attack
29 Phonetic symbol
30 Furnace meas.
32 Pres. who created the "alphabet agencies"
35 Not cool
36 Breakfast sometimes prepared overnight
37 Ho-hum
39 Helmet feature
43 Pet welfare org.
45 "Yer lyin'!"
47 South Indian rice cake
49 "You __ it to yourself ..."
51 Word rapper Bow Wow dropped from his stage name
53 Nursery containers
58 Footwear for boulderers, and what can be found in this puzzle's circled letters
59 Final: Abbr.
60 Squiggly letter
62 Hygiene tool on a spool
64 Loves to bits
65 "How many sugars?," quaintly
67 Lee with two Best Director Oscars
68 "West Coast" singer Lana Del __
70 Powerful engine named for its shape
73 Mountain pose, for one
76 Stunned state
78 Baseball team's starting lineup, e.g.
79 Pester
81 Feel rotten
83 Clear of condensation
87 Drink with a domed lid
88 Toffee candy bar
91 __ the bill
92 Sass
93 Made a two-piece chess move
94 Just OK
95 Like axolotls
97 Colorful character?
99 Flix sister station
103 Actor Funches of Apple TV+'s "Loot"
105 One on the stump
107 "North to the Future" state
109 Persuasive columns
110 __ compass
114 Focal points
115 "Let's do it!" hashtag
117 Knucklehead
118 Decides
120 Gardner of "Show Boat"
122 LAX clock setting

ANSWERS

Scrabblegrams

PAR SCORE 255-265

RACK 1 =	H4 O1 N1 O1 R1 E1 E1	60
RACK 2 =	U1 N1 D2 A1 T1 E1 D2	63
RACK 3 =	C3 Q1 O1 L1 I1 S1 H4	62
RACK 4 =	F4 I1 R1 E1 D2 O1 G2	74
RACK 5 =	L1 E1 I1 S1 U1 R1 E1	57
TOTAL		316

Jumble

THRESHOLD "PANE" HIGH

The bird that smashed into the very clean window was ok. He had a —

SPLASH HONCHO DEGREE
NEPHEW CASINO TROWEL

Quote Acrostic

QUOTE-ACROSTIC answer: R(ay) BRADBURY: FAREWELL SUMMER: The rust was everywhere, under trees and by riverbanks and near the tracks themselves where once a locomotive had gone. So flowered flakes and railroad track together turned upon the rim of autumn.

A. Rougher
B. Bravest
C. Raccoon
D. Ardent
E. Devoted
F. Brought
G. Uttered
H. Retakes
I. Yachted
J. Funnier
K. Awaken
L. Remnants
M. Earthen
N. Wishful
O. Eastwood
P. Leeward
Q. Leveled
R. Skylark
S. Uniform
T. Motives
U. Mother
V. Earphones
W. Ranches

Mepham Sudoku

4	5	3	6	9	1	7	8	2
7	9	6	4	8	2	3	1	5
8	1	2	7	3	5	6	9	4
3	7	8	9	2	6	4	5	1
1	4	5	3	6	8	2	7	9
9	6	2	3	7	8	5	4	1
6	2	9	5	4	1	8	3	7
5	8	4	1	9	7	6	2	3
2	3	7	8	5	4	1	9	6

Killer Sudoku

2	6	8	1	5	9	4	3	7
9	7	4	6	3	5	2	8	1
1	3	5	7	4	6	9	2	8
7	5	9	6	1	3	8	4	2
3	8	2	5	7	4	1	6	9
6	4	1	2	8	9	7	5	3
4	8	3	6	1	9	7	2	5
5	1	7	3	2	8	6	9	4
8	2	9	5	7	4	3	1	6

Jumble Crossword

ANSWERS: 1A-Station 6A-Neglect 8A-Gate 9A-Fare 11A-Realtor 12A-Jewelry 2D-Tighter 3D-Tier 4D-Anagram 5D-Forearm 7D-Toaster 10D-Kale 8-Aretha Franklin

PUZZLES

SUNDAY JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form six ordinary words.

SASLHP

NPWEHE

OCNHOH

NISAOC

REGEDE

OWRELT

Whoa! Are you OK? That looked like it hurt!
I'm good! This happens all the time.
10/12
THE BIRD THAT SMASHED INTO THE VERY CLEAN WINDOW WAS OK. HE HAD A ---

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Facebook

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW

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SUNDAY SCRABBLEGRAM

Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE© Players Dictionary, 5th Edition.

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E1 E1 O1 O1 N1 R1 H4 — RACK 1

A1 E1 U1 D2 D2 T1 N1 — 3rd Letter Triple — RACK 2

I1 O1 O1 H4 L1 C3 S1 — RACK 3

E1 I1 O1 D2 G2 R1 F4 — Double Word Score — RACK 4

E1 E1 I1 U1 S1 L1 R1 — RACK 5

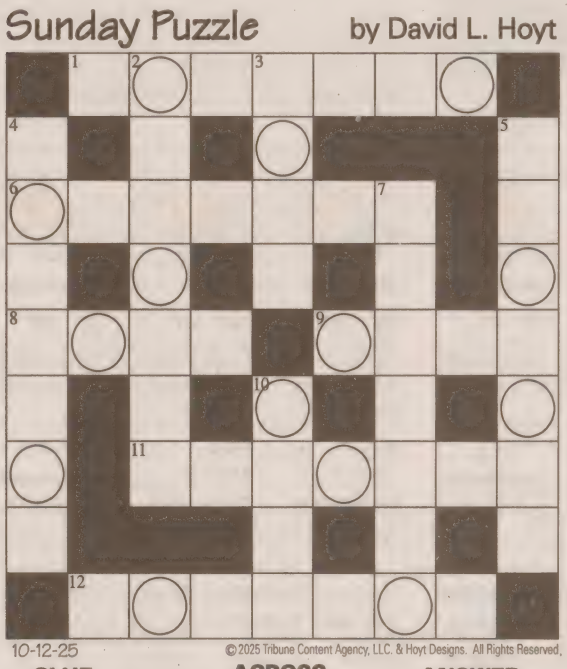
PAR SCORE 255-265
BEST SCORE 316

FIVE RACK TOTAL ___
TIME LIMIT: 25 MIN

JUMBLE CROSSWORD

Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

Sunday Puzzle by David L. Hoyt



10-12-25

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ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Bus ___	NSIOATT
6. Fail to care for	LEEGNCT
8. Entry barrier	EAGT
9. Passenger's fee	RFAE
11. Type of agent	LRAEROT
12. Costume ___	RWLYEEJ

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
2. More snug	HEGTTIR
3. Cake layer	RETI
4. Listen, to silent	NRAAMGA
5. Radius and ulna's location	RAOFEMR
7. Bread browner	ESAOTTR
10. Leafy green	LEKA

BONUS

CLUE: She won 18 competitive Grammy Awards during her career, plus two honorary Grammys.

___ ___

KILLER SUDOKU

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. Digits inside the dotted cages must add up to the number in the corner of each cage, and digits can't repeat inside a cage.

13		17	8	14			13	
				3	17	15		
16	17					9		15
	14	13		9	3			
			16			15		11
14		3		9	15			
	17		6		15			
11	11			8	4	19		17
		18						

MEPHAM SUDOKU

		1			3	7		
		5						
3	2			6				5
7			4					6
		2		7		5		
1					9			3
4				3			1	8
				8		6		
		7	1			3		

QUOTE ACROSTIC

Define clues in Words column. Transfer letters to diagram. Quotation reads across; first letters of Words column form acrostic of speaker's name and topic.

1 D	2 M	3 V		4 D	5 N	6 V	7 T		8 P
9 B	10 T		11 Q	12 T	13 E	14 W	15 R	16 K	17 F
18 V	19 S	20 P		21 J	22 L	23 Q	24 W	25 V	
26 I	27 U	28 Q	29 P	30 L		31 C	32 W	33 E	
34 F	35 I		36 H	37 N	38 E	39 T	40 L	41 B	42 I
43 V	44 R	45 W		46 H	47 S	48 D		49 M	50 H
51 P	52 A		53 G	54 W	55 I		56 B	57 A	58 D
59 C	60 K	61 N		62 E	63 V	64 M	65 T	66 R	67 K
68 N	69 Q	70 U	71 B		72 N	73 U	74 Q	75 F	76 O
	77 V	78 J	79 I	80 D		81 L		82 Q	83 T
84 C	85 O	86 S	87 E	88 U	89 J	90 B	91 M		92 N
93 K	94 O		95 A	96 C	97 D	98 J		99 H	100 U
	101 J	102 R	103 S	104 O	105 H	106 B	107 G	108 E	
109 N	110 Q	111 M	112 H	113 L	114 O		115 O	116 C	117 I
	118 C	119 R	120 S	121 P	122 J	123 F	124 V	125 G	
126 F	127 M	128 K	129W	130 R		131 H	132 O	133 F	134 E
135 M	136 I	137 A	138 P		139 L	140 A	141 R	142 J	143 G
144 P		145 F	146 V	147 C	148 K		149 G	150 A	151 B
	152 G	153 T	154 L		155 A	156 S		157W	158 G
159 O	160 S	161 U	162 L						

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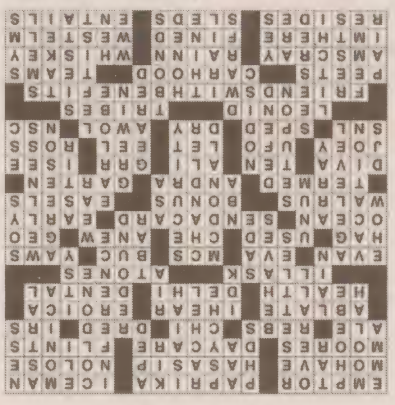
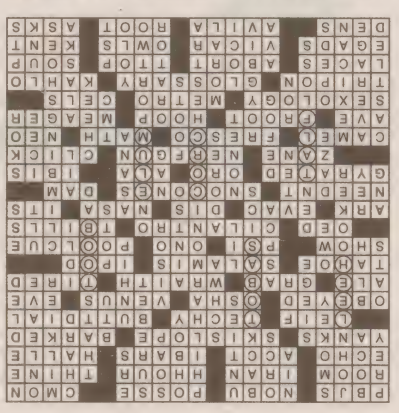
by Cornelia Paws

CLUES	WORDS
A. Not as gentle	57 155 140 95 150 137 52
B. Least likely to turn tail	41 106 9 90 151 71 56
C. Rocky of song	118 31 59 84 96 147 116
D. Zealous	58 4 48 80 97 1
E. Totally loyal	33 134 38 87 62 13 108
F. Came with	34 75 123 145 133 17 126
G. Articulated, perhaps	158 53 149 107 152 143 125
H. New shoots	36 50 131 46 112 105 99
I. Went cruising, say	35 42 79 136 26 55 117
J. Better at stand-up	101 21 142 78 89 98 122
K. Stir	128 16 93 60 67 148
L. Carpet leftovers	40 113 154 22 81 162 139 30
M. Made of clay	91 111 127 135 2 64 49
N. Like some thinking	72 37 61 92 109 5 68
O. "Million Dollar Baby" director	76 115 114 159 104 132 85 94
P. Away from the wind	121 29 20 8 51 138 144
Q. Spoke frankly	82 11 69 28 110 74 23
R. Shelley subject	66 130 15 102 119 141 44
S. Sports duds	160 47 120 156 103 19 86
T. Columbo concerns	65 83 7 153 12 39 10
U. May honoree	161 100 88 73 70 27
V. Wiretap aids	3 124 25 146 63 77 43 18 6
W. Cattle farms	14 157 32 129 54 24 45

NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD



LOS ANGELES TIMES CROSSWORD



WEATHER

WEEK IN PHOTOS

2 powerful earthquakes strike near southern Philippines

Residents stand Friday beside a landslide at Pantukan town, Davao de Oro province, southern Philippines. Two powerful offshore earthquakes struck the region in southern Philippines hours apart on Friday, with the first 7.4 magnitude temblor killing at least seven people, setting off landslides and prompting evacuations of coastal areas nearby because of a brief tsunami scare. The second quake had a preliminary 6.8 magnitude and also sparked a tsunami warning by local authorities. It was caused by movement in the same fault line, the Philippine Trench, at a depth of 23 miles off Manay town in Davao Oriental province, Philippine Institute of Seismology and Volcanology chief Teresito Bacolcol said. President Ferdinand Marcos Jr., facing his latest natural disaster after a recent deadly quake and back-to-back storms, said the potential damage was being assessed and rescue teams and relief operations were being prepared and would be deployed when it was safe to do so. *Photo: 10ID DPAO, Philippine Army via AP*

Motorists pass a house Saturday that was damaged the day before by an earthquake in Manay town, Davao Oriental province, southern Philippines. *Jeoffrey Maitem, AP*

Soldiers deliver relief by boat to a shelter Wednesday in the aftermath of Typhoon Matmo in Thai Nguyen, Vietnam. *Nguyen Quang Hai/VNA via AP*

The Harvest Supermoon rises Monday behind the Statue of Liberty and the Brooklyn skyline in Jersey City, N.J. Closer to the Earth, the moon appears larger. *Adam Gray, AP*

A villager stands on top of her flooded home Monday in Dalhamo village, near the Delta city of Ashmoun, Egypt. *Mohamed Hesham, AP*

Waves hit the shore of Kaminato Port on Thursday in Hachijo Island, south of Tokyo, Japan. *Tokyo Metropolitan Government Bureau of Port and Harbor via AP*

Ann Arbor weather today

Mostly sunny

High Low **70° 44°**
Feels like 70° 42°
Average 56°

Winds. 4 mph, NNE
Humidity. 93%

Hourly forecast **Sunrise** 7:44 a.m. **Sunset** 6:57 p.m. **Moonrise** 11:09 p.m. **Moonset** 2:36 p.m.

12 am	1	2	3	4	5	6 am	7	8	9	10	11	12 pm	1	2	3	4	5	6 pm	7	8	9	10	11
48°	47°	46°	46°	45°	45°	44°	45°	45°	49°	54°	59°	61°	65°	67°	69°	70°	69°	67°	64°	61°	59°	57°	55°

Mostly Clear 10% · Mostly Clear 22% · Partly Cloudy 33% · Mostly Sunny 21%

Extended forecast

Tomorrow	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
71° 51°	70° 50°	58° 45°	58° 36°	62° 40°	67° 52°
Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy with isolated showers	Partly cloudy with showers	Partly cloudy with isolated showers	Partly cloudy with isolated showers	Partly cloudy with showers
Wind 4 mph, E	**Wind** 2 mph, ESE	**Wind** 5 mph, N	**Wind** 3 mph, N	**Wind** 4 mph, N	**Wind** 7 mph, SSE
Precipitation 0% chance	**Precipitation** 10% chance	**Precipitation** 17% chance	**Precipitation** 10% chance	**Precipitation** 10% chance	**Precipitation** 20% chance

Almanac

Yesterday

High Low **63° 45°**
Average 55°

Precipitation* 0"
Max wind 8 mph, N
Wind gust 13 mph
Humidity max. 91%
Humidity min. 57%
Humidity avg. 60%
Dewpoint max. 49°
Dewpoint min. 43°
Dewpoint avg. 47°

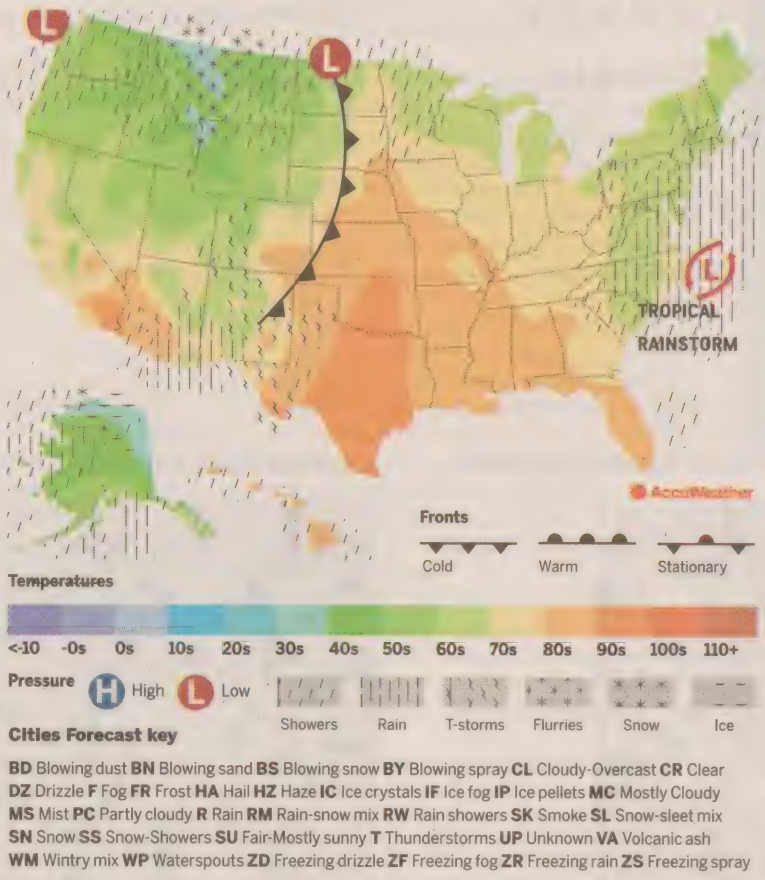
Last 30 days

Temp. max. 87°
Temp. min. 36°
Avg. high low 78° 53°
Precipitation* 1.75"
YTD precip.* 20.40"

Moon phases

Third Oct. 13
New Oct. 21
First Oct. 29
Full Nov. 05

National Forecast



*Local information comes from several area weather stations and can vary from sources used elsewhere.

Advance Local, Accuweather and Associated Press graphics. Powered by AerisWeather

10.12.2025

Cities Forecast key

BD Blowing dust **BN** Blowing sand **BS** Blowing snow **BY** Blowing spray **CL** Cloudy-Overcast **CR** Clear **DZ** Drizzle **F** Fog **FR** Frost **HA** Hail **HZ** Haze **IC** Ice crystals **IF** Ice fog **IP** Ice pellets **MC** Mostly Cloudy **MS** Mist **PC** Partly cloudy **R** Rain **RM** Rain-snow mix **RW** Rain showers **SK** Smoke **SL** Snow-sleet mix **SN** Snow **SS** Snow-Showers **SU** Fair-Mostly sunny **T** Thunderstorms **UP** Unknown **VA** Volcanic ash **WM** Wintry mix **WP** Waterspouts **ZD** Freezing drizzle **ZF** Freezing fog **ZR** Freezing rain **ZS** Freezing spray

Region	Yesterday	Today	Tomorrow		Yesterday	Today	Tomorrow
Bad Axe	63-44 RW	68-47 SU	71-52 PC	Mack. City	60-50 MC	63-53 PC	66-51 RW
Bay City	62-46 RW	68-49 PC	71-55 PC	Marquette	57-49 PC	62-55 PC	64-48 RW
C. Harbor	58-52 PC	64-55 PC	63-48 RW	Marshall	65-40 PC	69-47 SU	73-52 PC
Escanaba	61-48 PC	62-53 PC	65-45 RW	Milwaukee	61-55 RW	65-57 PC	68-55 RW
Flint	63-44 RW	70-50 PC	73-52 PC	Mt. Pleasant	62-42 MC	67-46 PC	71-53 PC
Fort Wayne	69-43 SU	71-48 SU	76-53 SU	Muskegon	67-45 PC	69-50 SU	70-55 PC
Grand Rapids	65-44 PC	69-49 SU	73-55 PC	Port Huron	63-47 RW	67-52 SU	69-52 SU
Green Bay	60-51 PC	63-54 PC	65-47 RW	Saginaw	63-45 RW	69-50 PC	73-55 PC
Houghton	60-46 PC	67-52 PC	63-44 RW	S.S. Marie	61-52 PC	63-54 PC	64-49 RW
Jackson	65-42 PC	71-48 PC	75-52 PC	South Bend	68-43 SU	71-49 SU	75-56 PC
Kalamazoo	65-42 PC	68-48 SU	73-54 PC	South Haven	65-45 PC	70-50 SU	70-56 PC
Lansing	63-43 PC	69-49 SU	73-54 PC	Toledo	66-50 SU	69-52 SU	72-55 SU
London	64-48 RW	70-50 SU	69-48 SU	Trav. City	62-46 RW	67-52 SU	69-52 RW

U.S.	Yesterday	Today	Tomorrow		Yesterday	Today	Tomorrow
Anchorage	48-38 RW	48-42 R	49-42 R	Minneapolis	67-55 SU	71-49 RW	62-44 RW
Atlanta	76-56 SU	78-56 SU	80-60 SU	Nashville	80-51 SU	80-50 CR	82-55 CR
Boston	65-53 PC	61-53 RW	57-54 R	New York City	66-60 R	62-58 R	60-57 R
Charlotte	69-60 RW	68-58 RW	74-56 RW	New Orleans	81-66 CR	82-65 CR	84-69 CR
Chicago	65-53 PC	68-56 SU	72-61 PC	Orlando	79-65 T	81-65 SU	83-68 SU
Cleveland	64-49 RW	70-53 RW	69-54 SU	Palm Springs	91-67 SU	88-63 SU	83-58 SU
Dallas	90-66 SU	91-68 SU	89-67 SU	Phoenix	91-74 T	85-72 T	86-69 T
Denver	76-53 RW	73-44 RW	65-44 RW	Pittsburgh	69-50 PC	69-51 RW	69-50 RW
Detroit	67-51 SU	71-56 PC	70-55 SU	Portland	59-49 RW	55-46 T	58-44 RW
Honolulu	87-78 RW	86-76 RW	87-76 RW	San Diego	72-60 SU	73-59 PC	70-59 PC
Houston	88-68 CR	88-68 SU	87-70 SU	San Francisco	68-54 CR	69-56 CR	66-56 T
Indianapolis	73-47 SU	73-49 CR	77-57 SU	San Juan	89-79 T	87-80 T	86-80 RW
Kansas City	77-62 PC	85-66 SU	73-62 T	Seattle	59-50 R	56-46 R	58-44 R
Las Vegas	86-62 SU	78-59 CR	81-58 SU	St. Louis	80-53 SU	81-56 SU	82-63 PC
Los Angeles	78-57 SU	78-57 SU	70-58 PC	Tampa	83-65 RW	84-66 SU	87-69 CR
Miami	84-72 T	85-74 SU	85-76 SU	Washington	71-60 RW	65-57 R	63-56 R

World	Yesterday	Today	Tomorrow		Yesterday	Today	Tomorrow
Acapulco	72-64 RW	78-62 RW	76-66 RW	Nassau	84-79 RW	84-78 RW	83-78 RW
Amsterdam	63-55 MC	61-57 MC	62-52 MC	Paris	66-52 PC	65-52 PC	66-52 PC
Buenos Aires	76-53 RW	63-55 RW	74-51 CR	Prague	62-52 MC	59-53 RW	59-42 RW
Dublin	55-45 MC	58-47 CL	61-54 MC	Riyadh	95-75 PC	95-75 CR	96-74 CR
Jerusalem	82-62 SU	74-60 PC	75-59 CR	Rome	79-55 SU	77-56 PC	76-54 PC
Ljubljana	64-46 MC	63-46 PC	63-48 MC	Seoul	72-62 RW	69-63 RW	62-58 RW
London	60-50 MC	61-56 PC	64-55 MC	Tokyo	66-63 RW	78-68 PC	75-65 RW
Madrid	73-59 R	75-59 MC	72-55 RW	Toronto	63-50 RW	64-52 RW	63-51 PC
Mexico City	67-54 RW	71-53 PC	72-53 SU	Vancouver	55-47 RW	51-44 RW	55-46 CR

SUNDAY COMICS

B.C.

BY MASON MASTROIANNI AND MICK MASTROIANNI

Baby Blues

Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

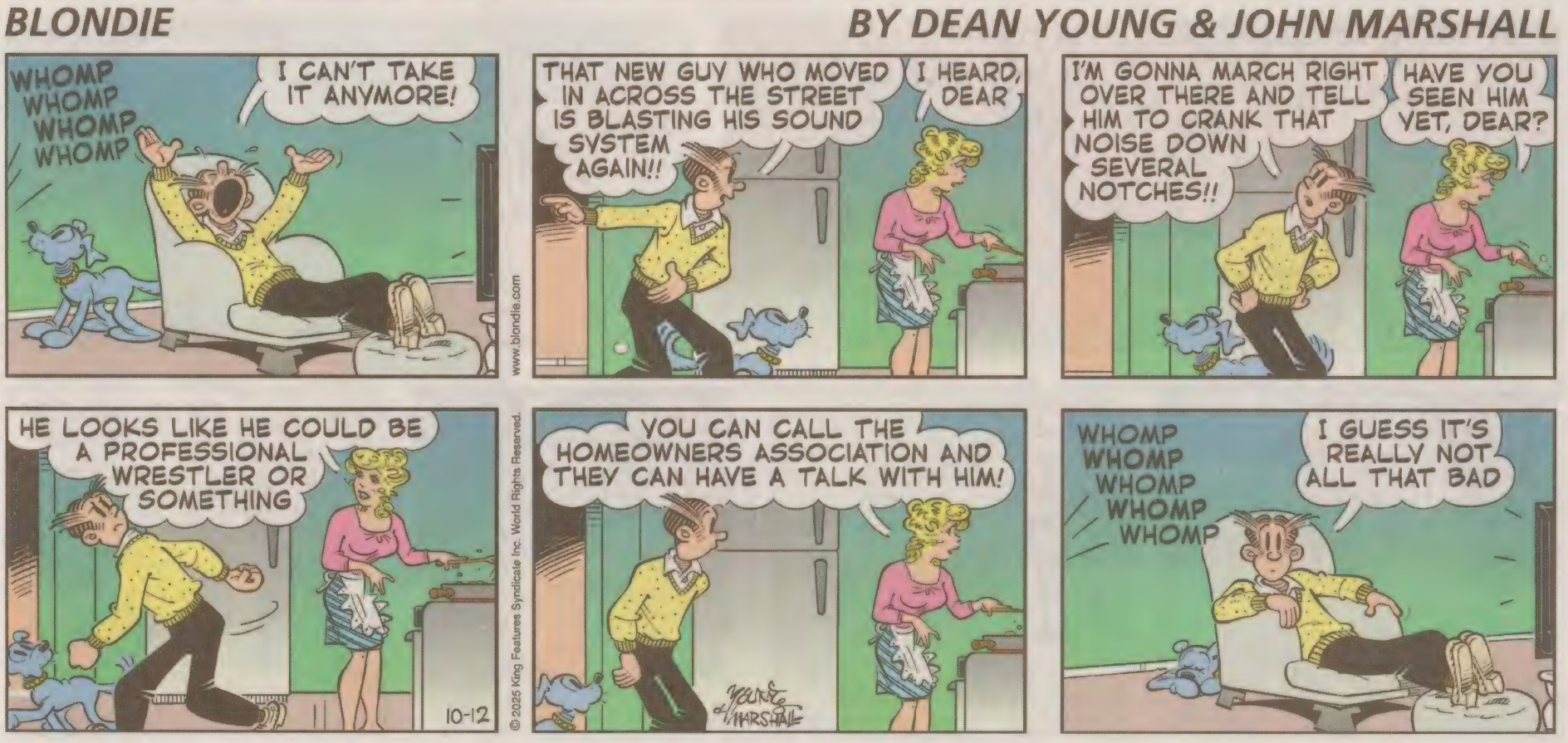
BEETLE BAILEY

BY GREG, BRIAN & NEAL WALKER

WHAT'S UP?
NUTHIN'
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE A BIT DOWN IN THE DUMPS
I'M OKAY
YOU CAN LEVEL WITH ME. WE'RE BUDDIES, AREN'T WE?
I JUST WONDER IF I SHOULD HAVE JOINED THE ARMY
DON'T DOUBT YOURSELF. THIS IS WHERE YOU BELONG
YOU WOULDN'T BE GOOD IN NORMAL SOCIETY ANY-WAY
GET BACK TO YOUR BUNK, YOU ★@#%~!!!
©2025 Comicana, Inc. Distributed by King Features Syndicate.
I AM GOOD AT THAT!
10/12
GREG + MORT WALKER

BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL


WHOMP WHOMP WHOMP WHOMP
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE!
THAT NEW GUY WHO MOVED IN ACROSS THE STREET IS BLASTING HIS SOUND SYSTEM AGAIN!!
I HEARD, DEAR
I'M GONNA MARCH RIGHT OVER THERE AND TELL HIM TO CRANK THAT NOISE DOWN SEVERAL NOTCHES!!
HAVE YOU SEEN HIM YET, DEAR?
www.blondie.com
HE LOOKS LIKE HE COULD BE A PROFESSIONAL WRESTLER OR SOMETHING
10-12
© 2025 King Features Syndicate Inc. World Rights Reserved.
YOU CAN CALL THE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION AND THEY CAN HAVE A TALK WITH HIM!
WHOMP WHOMP WHOMP WHOMP WHOMP
I GUESS IT'S REALLY NOT ALL THAT BAD

SUNDAY COMICS

CLASSIC PEANUTS

BY CHARLES SCHULZ

YOU'VE BEEN ELECTED GRAND MASTER OF YOUR LODGE? HOW NICE!
IT'S A NEW ORGANIZATION? HOW INTERESTING
OVER TWO HUNDRED MEMBERS ALREADY? THAT'S GREAT! HOW OFTEN DO YOU MEET?
ONCE A MONTH.. I SEE...
AND WHERE DO YOU PLAN TO HOLD YOUR MEETINGS?
I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN!
10/12
©1979 Peanuts Worldwide LLC
SCHULZ

CLOSE TO HOME

BY JOHN McPHERSON

Crabgrass

BY TAUHID BONDIA

MONGOOSE, WE'RE SHOWING YOU AT A VERY DANGEROUS ALTITUDE.
WE'RE GONNA NEED YOU TO BRING THAT BIRD BACK DOWN.
10-12
BONDIA
HIGGUM GUBNUB
JOOB GANOO
SAY AGAIN, MONGOOSE? I THINK YOU'RE BREAKING UP.
©2025 TAUHID BONDIA, DIST. BY ANDREWS MCMEEL
PILOT, YOU ARE TOO HIGH. DO YOU COPY?
FEEBA NUPNUP
GHEE
I DON'T KNOW -- ALL I'M GETTING IS GIBBERISH!
OH MY-
KYLE!
IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, YOU BOTH GOT GROUNDED.

CRANKSHAFT

BATIUK & DAVIS

SUNDAY COMICS

CURTIS

BY RAY BILLINGSLEY

HEY, MOM, GUESS WHO I SAW-
HEY, TICK, CAN'T YOU SEE I WAS TALKING TO MOM FIRST?!
10-12
WHAT'S WITH THE SARCASTIC SLOW CLAP, DRIPPY?
CLAP...
...CLAP...
CLAP
©2025 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
PITY CLAP. I PITY THAT YOU THINK ANYTHING YOU SAY IS "INTERESTING"
?
BORIN', AM I?!
TOTALLY
STOPPIT STOPPIT RIGHT NOW!
I WANT YOU TWO TO SHAKE HANDS AND PROMISE NOT TO FIGHT ANYMORE, HEAR?
I-I'M SORRY, CURTIS
I'M SORRY TOO, BARRY
HEY, DON'T SQUEEZE MY HAND, Y' BIG STIFF!!
YOU'RE SQUEEZIN' MINE, TROLL!!
OW!
OOO!
LEGGO
SIGH

DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM

HERE'S SOMETHING INTERESTING.
A STUDY SAYS SINCE THE ONLY CHILD GETS ALL THE ATTENTION...
©2025 North America Synd.
...AND DOESN'T HAVE TO COMPETE WITH OTHER SIBLINGS...
R. Fabiano/S. Ketcham 10-12
...THEY TEND TO BE MORE WELL-BEHAVED.
DENNIS! TIME FOR BREAKF...
APPARENTLY SOMEONE DIDN'T GET THE MEMO.

DOONESBURY

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

A DISRUPTIVE LI'L DONNIE RETURNS FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE.
WELL, DONNIE?
I BELIEVE WE HAD A VERY PRODUCTIVE MEETING.*
*Verbatim from Alaska summit
THERE WERE MANY, MANY POINTS THAT WE AGREED ON, MOST OF THEM I WOULD SAY, A COUPLE OF BIG ONES THAT WE HAVEN'T QUITE GOTTEN THERE, BUT WE'VE MADE SOME HEADWAY.
10-12
SO THERE'S NO DEAL UNTIL THERE'S A DEAL, BUT WE HAD AN EXTREMELY PRODUCTIVE MEETING AND MANY POINTS WE AGREED TO.
THERE ARE JUST A VERY FEW THAT ARE LEFT. SOME ARE NOT THAT SIGNIFICANT. ONE IS PROBABLY THE MOST SIGNIFICANT...
Andrews McMeel Syndication ©2025 G B Trudeau
... BUT WE HAVE A VERY GOOD CHANCE OF GETTING THERE. WE DIDN'T GET THERE, BUT WE HAVE A VERY GOOD CHANCE OF GETTING THERE.
www.doonesbury.com
YOU DIDN'T GO, DID YOU?
OOH! THAT'S AN INTERESTING ONE. I DON'T KNOW. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

BY LYNN JOHNSTON

WHOOOOSHHHHH
© 2025 Lynn Johnston Productions Inc. / Dist. By Andrews McMeel Syndication
WHATCHA DOING, APRIL?
DANCING!
10-12 www.fborfw.com
... TO THE SAME MUSIC THE LEAVES ARE DANCING TO !!!
LYNN

SUNDAY COMICS

FRANK AND ERNEST®

CEREAL DEPT.
ERNIE, I'VE BEEN WONDERING... WHY DO YOU WORK HERE? FOR ALL THE FREE CEREAL?
NO... JUST FOR KIX!
THAT'S GOOD, BECAUSE IT'S LATE AND WE STILL HAVE A LOT TO DO.
AYE, AYE, CAPTAIN... IT'S CRUNCH TIME!
TO START, WE'LL NEED SOME MAGIC TO SOLVE A TOUGH LOGISTICS ISSUE.
CONSIDER IT DONE... I'LL USE SOME TRIX.
WONDERFUL! NEXT, PLEASE GET SHIPPING STARTED AGAIN.
DONE! THE CHEX ARE IN THE MAIL!
CEREAL
THAT'S GREAT, ERNIE! OUR LAST THING IS TO NAME A NEW PRODUCT THAT COMBINES LIFE CEREAL AND LUCKY CHARMS...
I KNOW... A CHARMED LIFE!
FANTASTIC! WE GOT IT ALL DONE! SEE YOU TOMORROW, ERNIE.
CHEERIO, FRANK!
10-12 THAVES
©Thaves/2025 dist. by Andrews McMeel

GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS

© 2025 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
KICK!
CRASH!
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication
JIM DAVIS 10-12
GEETH. YOU KICK THUMONE OFF THE TABLE A FEW HUNDRED TIMETH, AND THEY LOOTH THEIR THENTH OF HUMOR...

GET FUZZY

BY DARBY CONLEY

DO I DETECT A SPECK ON YOUR TINY MIND, THERE, BIG PINK ?
JUST THINKING. I STUMBLED INTO A BIT OF A MORAL CONUNDRUM AT WORK TODAY.
I HEAR YA. A BUDDY OF MINE FELL INTO ONE OF THOSE OUT IN THE WOODS LAST WEEK.
...WHAT ?
YUP. RIGHT DOWN THE OL' CONUNDRUM.
Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS 10/12
FORTUNATELY, THERE WAS ONLY ONE MORAL IN IT AT THE TIME AND HE CLIMBED OUT WITHOUT TOO MUCH TROUBLE.
darb
© 2006 Darby Conley
ALL OF HIS FILTHY FRIENDS MUST HAVE BEEN OUT COLLECTING NUTS OR SOMETHING.
SO...THE MORAL OF THIS STORY IS WHAT, NOW?
I THINK HIS NAME WAS WILLY.
SURE. SURE.

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

BY DIK BROWNE

10-12
THE PRICES ON THESE NEW BOATS ARE CRAZY!
KARL'S VIKING BOATS
LET'S LEAVE!
NOT YET!
VIK
KARL, CAN YOU HOOK ME UP WITH A USED BOAT?
YOU'RE IN LUCK!
B BROWNE
KARL
IVAR, THAT BOAT IS WITHIN STRIKING DISTANCE! GRAB THE REST OF THE SALES CREW AND TAKE IT!
THE CUSTOMER SERVICE HERE CAN'T BE BEAT!
IVAR
KARL
© 2025 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

SUNDAY COMICS

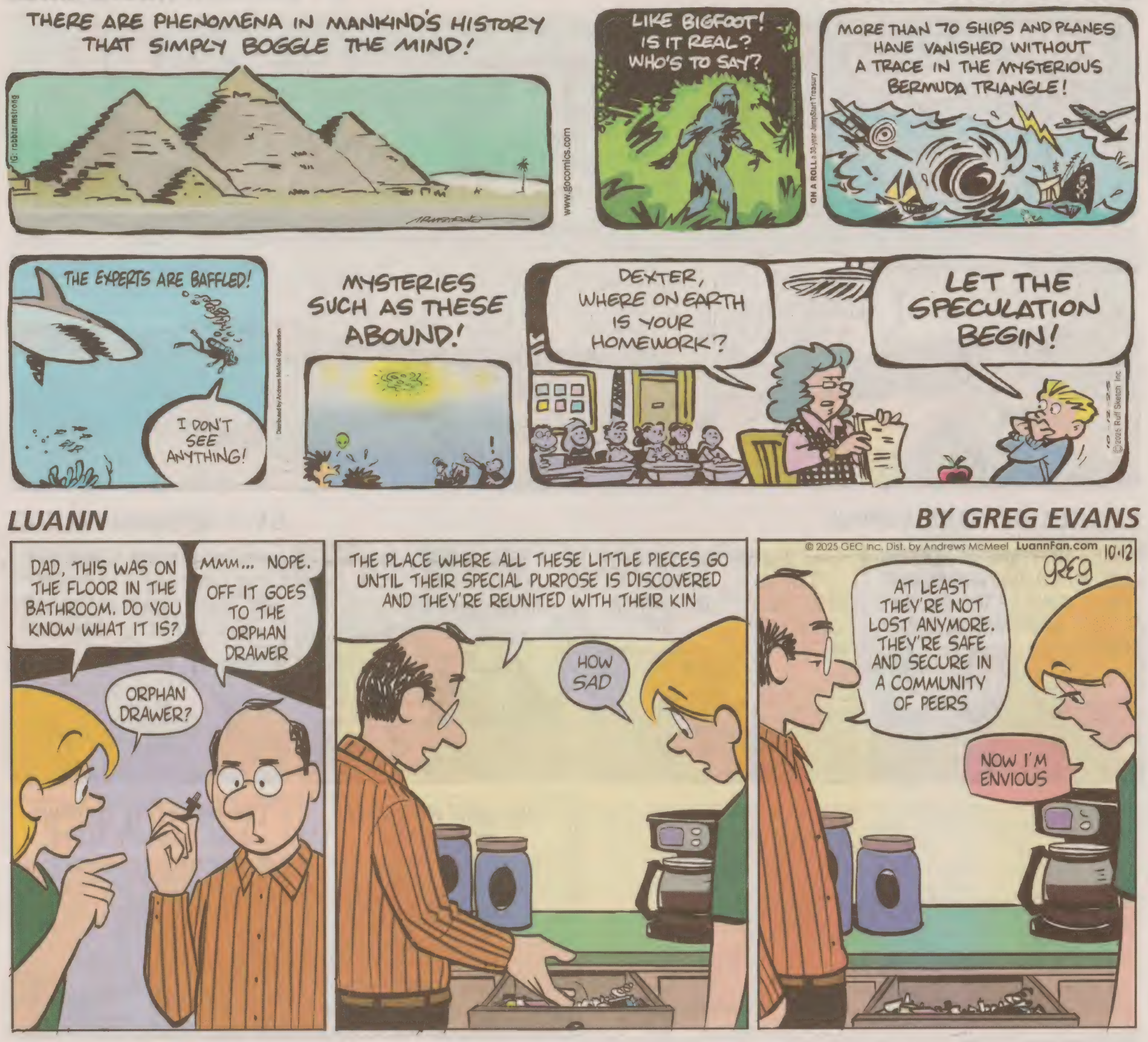
HI AND LOIS

BY BRIAN AND GREG WALKER

DON'T YOU LOVE THESE THREE-DAY WEEKENDS?
I GUESS.
IT USED TO BE CALLED "COLUMBUS DAY."
©2025 Comicana. Inc. Distributed by King Features Syndicate.
HiandLois.com
10-12
NOW IT'S "INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY."
ERIC REYES
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT WE'RE CELEBRATING ANYMORE.
FOR ME, IT'S ALL ABOUT THE FOLIAGE.

JUMP START

BY ROBB ARMSTRONG


THERE ARE PHENOMENA IN MANKIND'S HISTORY THAT SIMPLY BOGGLE THE MIND!
IG: robbarmstrong
www.gocomics.com
LIKE BIGFOOT! IS IT REAL? WHO'S TO SAY?
ON A ROLL a 30-year JumpStart Treasury
MORE THAN 70 SHIPS AND PLANES HAVE VANISHED WITHOUT A TRACE IN THE MYSTERIOUS BERMUDA TRIANGLE!
THE EXPERTS ARE BAFFLED!
I DON'T SEE ANYTHING!
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication
MYSTERIES SUCH AS THESE ABOUND!
DEXTER, WHERE ON EARTH IS YOUR HOMEWORK?
LET THE SPECULATION BEGIN!
©2025 Ruff Sketch Inc.

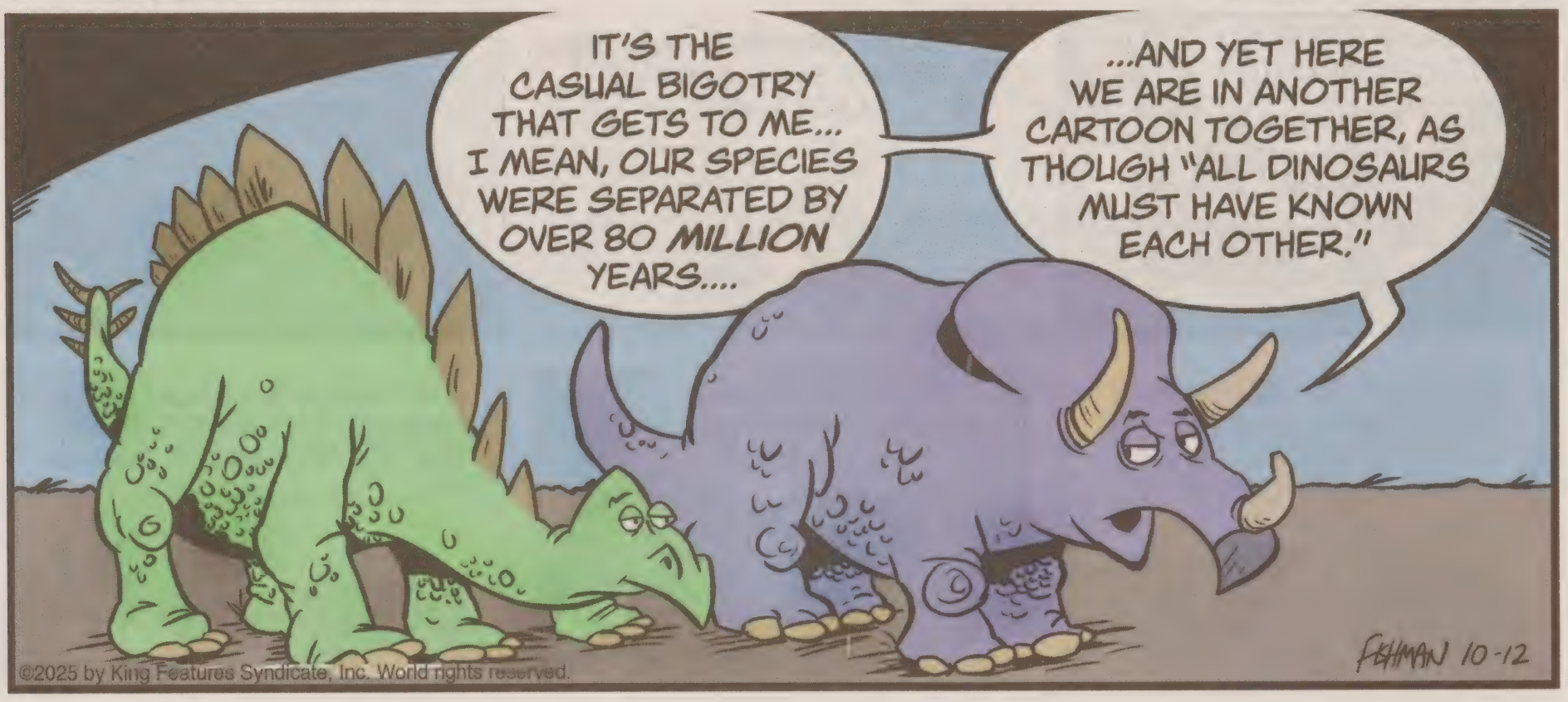
LUANN

BY GREG EVANS

DAD, THIS WAS ON THE FLOOR IN THE BATHROOM. DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT IS?
MMM... NOPE.
OFF IT GOES TO THE ORPHAN DRAWER
ORPHAN DRAWER?
THE PLACE WHERE ALL THESE LITTLE PIECES GO UNTIL THEIR SPECIAL PURPOSE IS DISCOVERED AND THEY'RE REUNITED WITH THEIR KIN
HOW SAD
© 2025 GEC Inc. Dist. by Andrews McMeel LuannFan.com
10-12
GREG
AT LEAST THEY'RE NOT LOST ANYMORE. THEY'RE SAFE AND SECURE IN A COMMUNITY OF PEERS
NOW I'M ENVIOUS

MALLARD FILLMORE

BY BRUCE TINSLEY


IT'S THE CASUAL BIGOTRY THAT GETS TO ME... I MEAN, OUR SPECIES WERE SEPARATED BY OVER 80 MILLION YEARS....
...AND YET HERE WE ARE IN ANOTHER CARTOON TOGETHER, AS THOUGH "ALL DINOSAURS MUST HAVE KNOWN EACH OTHER."
FISHMAN 10-12
©2025 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

SUNDAY COMICS

MARMADUKE

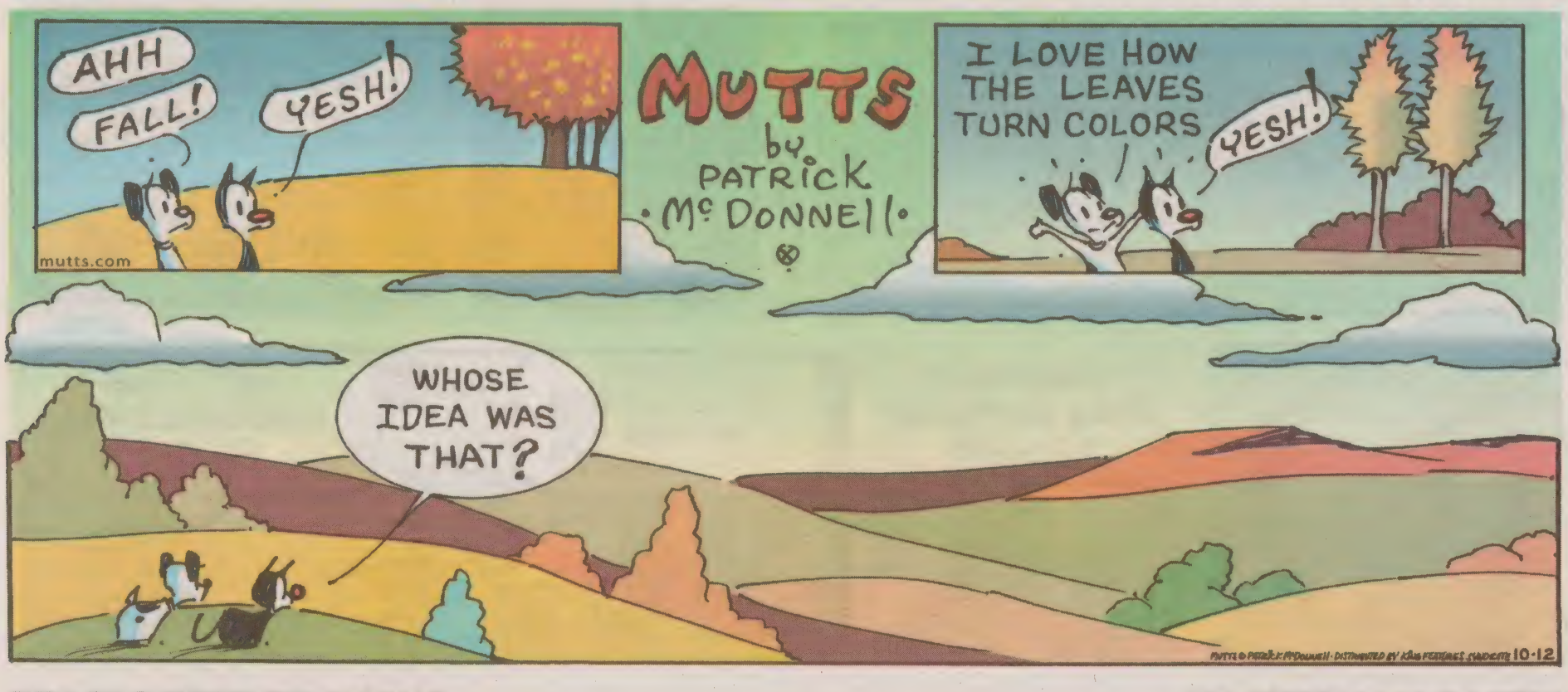
BY BRAD & PAUL ANDERSON

DOG GONE FUNNY

NIGEL'S YELLOW LABRADOR, CHELSEA, IS A WIZARD AT MONEY MANAGEMENT. NIGEL'S KIDS WOULD LEAVE MONEY LYING AROUND, AND CHELSEA WOULD TAKE THE BILLS AND HIDE THEM. CHELSEA WOULD RETURN THE MONEY ONLY IF NIGEL SAID, "SHOW ME THE MONEY," AND GAVE HER A TREAT.

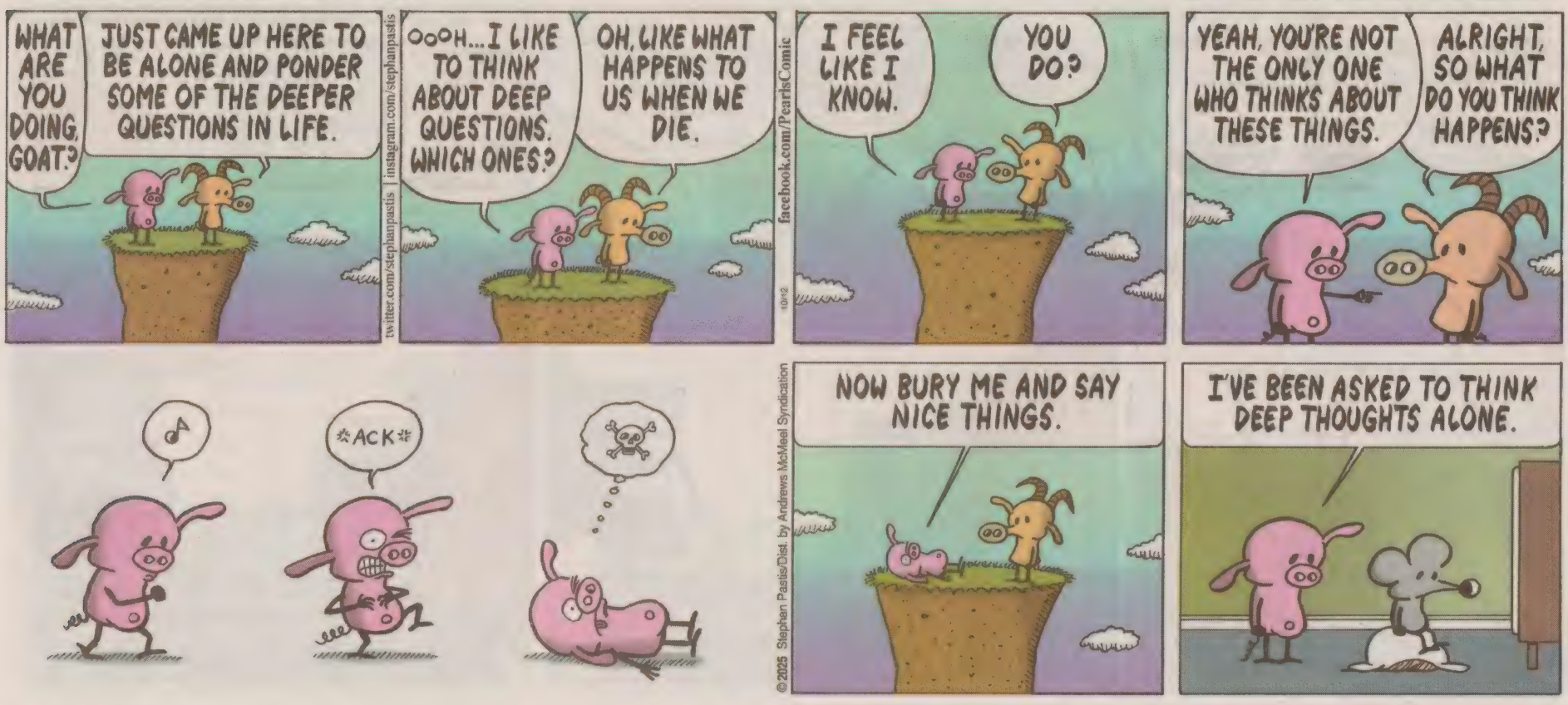
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

BY STEPHAN PASTIS


WHAT ARE YOU DOING, GOAT?
JUST CAME UP HERE TO BE ALONE AND PONDER SOME OF THE DEEPER QUESTIONS IN LIFE.
twitter.com/stephanpastis | instagram.com/stephanpastis
OOOH...I LIKE TO THINK ABOUT DEEP QUESTIONS. WHICH ONES?
OH, LIKE WHAT HAPPENS TO US WHEN WE DIE.
facebook.com/PearlsComic
I FEEL LIKE I KNOW.
YOU DO?
YEAH, YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO THINKS ABOUT THESE THINGS.
ALRIGHT, SO WHAT DO YOU THINK HAPPENS?
ACK
NOW BURY ME AND SAY NICE THINGS.
I'VE BEEN ASKED TO THINK DEEP THOUGHTS ALONE.
© 2025 Stephan Pastis/Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication

PICKLES

by BRIAN CRANE

EARL, WHO DRESSED YOU THIS MORNING?
HUH?
YOU'RE WEARING ONE BROWN SHOE AND ONE BLACK SHOE!
YEAH...IS THAT A PROBLEM?
I BELIEVE IN EQUALITY FOR SHOES OF ALL COLORS, SIZES AND ARCH SUPPORT!!
THESE FEET ARE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TOOTSIES!!
10/12
©2025 Brian Crane, dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
IN OTHER WORDS, YOU GOT DRESSED WITHOUT PUTTING ON YOUR GLASSES AGAIN.

SUNDAY COMICS

Prince Valiant

HAL FOSTER'S Prince Valiant

BY SCHULTZ AND YEATES

VAL HAS PROVEN HIS VALUE AS A FIGHTER. AND NOW ALETA DISPLAYS HER SKILLS AS A DANCER – A MUCH-APPRECIATED ART AMONG THE TRAVELERS.

SHE WHIRLS MADLY TO THE FEVERISH MUSIC. AND SOON OTHERS HAVE JOINED HER. *"THIS BLONDE WOULD ADD A WELCOME NOTE OF THE EXOTIC TO OUR PERFORMANCES!"* THINKS KING EMILIAN.

EVEN VAL IS TAKEN ABACK BY ALETA'S WILD DANCING PROWESS, LONG UNUSED BUT STILL STIRRING. SHE KNOWS HOW TO WORK THE CROWD!

SHE STOPS, AND BOLDLY EYES EMILIAN. *"THERE! YOU SEE THAT BOTH ARTA AND HER MAN, VASO, CAN PAY FOR THEIR KEEP! AND WE HATE JUSTINIAN AND HIS PERSECUTION AS MUCH AS YOU DO!"*

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VAL RECOGNIZES A GOOD PLAN WHEN HE SEES ONE. HE JOINS ALETA. *"YES! I, VASO, AND MY ARTA BOTH PLEDGE OURSELVES TO THE TRIBE AND ITS BENEFIT – IF YOU WILL HAVE US!"*

EMILIAN IS MUCH AMUSED. *"VERY WELL – WE WILL CHANCE IT WITH YOU TWO, BUT BE ON YOUR HONOR, AND WOE TO ANY WHO BETRAY! NOW, TELL US TRUE, WHERE COMES YOUR HATRED OF THE GREAT JUSTINIAN?"*

NEXT: **Arta's Tale**

T·Y·'25

4627 YEATES 10/12/25

ROSE IS ROSE

BY PAT BRADY & DON WIMMER

Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication
I'M AFRAID TO LOOK...
IS HE STILL FOLLOWING ME?!
DRAIN MONSTERS CAN'T FLY.. YOU'RE CLEAR TO LAND..
© 2025 UFS, Inc.
10-12

SALLY FORTH

BY FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE

KITTY'S TERROR ~~TALES~~ ~~TAILS~~ TALES
EPISODE TWO "SURPRISE APPEARANCE"
MWAHAHAHA!!!
HUH...WHA... AUGH!
©2025 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
KITTY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING? IT'S 3 A.M. IT'S WAY TOO EARLY FOR BREAKFAST.
DO YOU NEED WATER? YOU WANT TO CUDDLE WITH US? YOU NEED ME TO GET A TOY FROM UNDER THE SOFA? UNDER THE REFRIGERATOR? IN THE CRAWL SPACE?
YOU WANT YOUR LITTER BOX CLEANED? NAILS CLIPPED? IS IT MONEY? IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT? DID YOU GET ON THE BED TO SHAKE ME DOWN FOR MONEY?! DID YOU THINK I'D GIVE YOU MONEY?!? WHAT KIND OF CAT DOES THAT?!?
10-12
THE DAY KITTY MADE $500.
FINE. JUST LET ME GO BACK TO SLEEP AND TOMORROW I'LL GO TO THE ATM AND...I'LL GET DRESSED NOW.

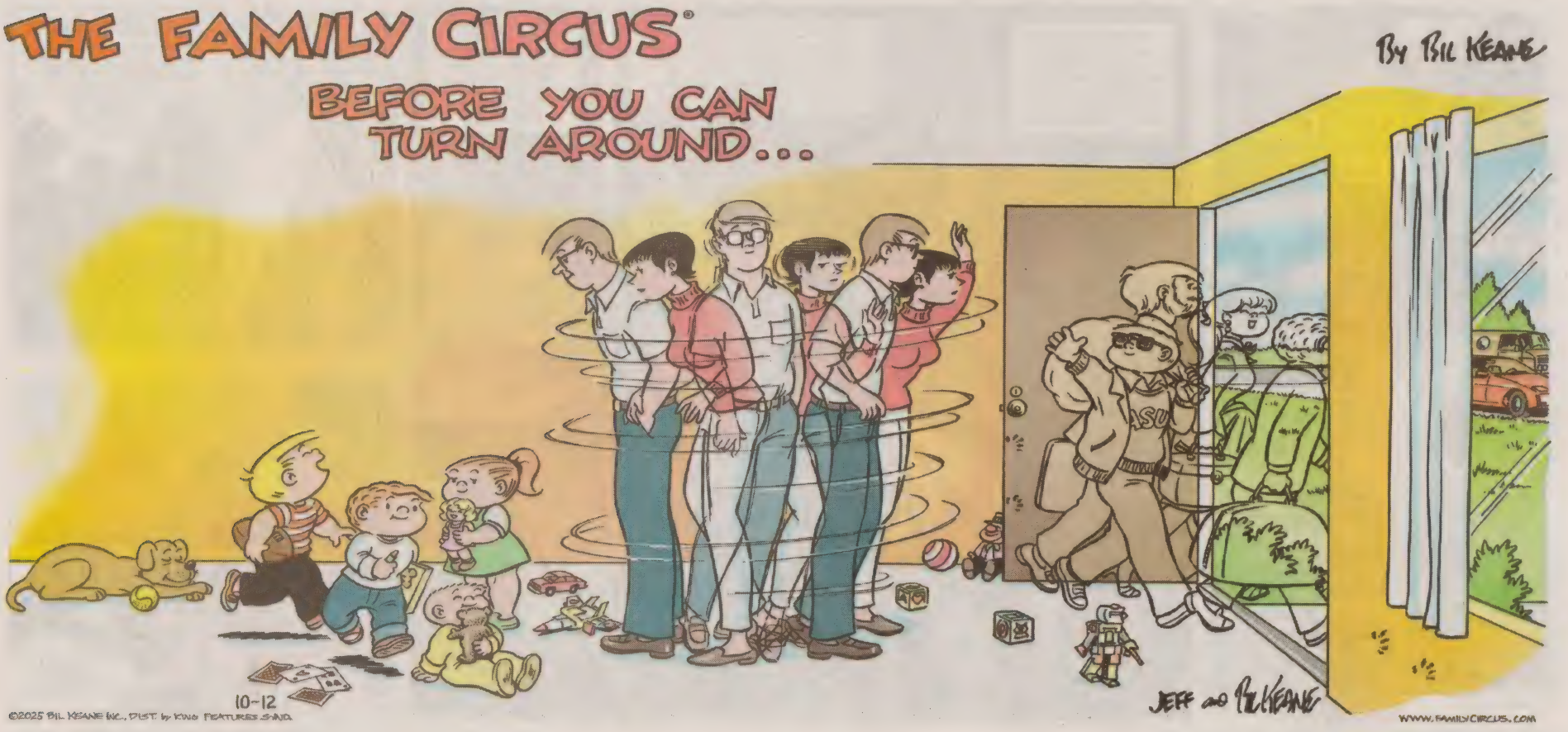
BORN LOSER

BY ART & CHIP SANSOM

WHY ARE YOU CALLING FROM THE ROAD, GLADYS? IS SOMETHING WRONG?
I'M FINE, BUT THE CAR HAS A FLAT TIRE!
UH-OH! SHOULD I CALL THE AUTO CLUB TO TOW YOU TO A SERVICE STATION?
OR IF THE FLAT ISN'T TOO BAD, YOU COULD DRIVE SLOWLY ON IT TO THE NEAREST SERVICE STATION.
© 2025 UFS, Dist. by Andrews McMeel for UFS www.gocomics.com/the-born-loser
Art/Chip 10/12
OH, IT DOESN'T SEEM TOO BAD...
IT'S ONLY FLAT ON THE BOTTOM!
!

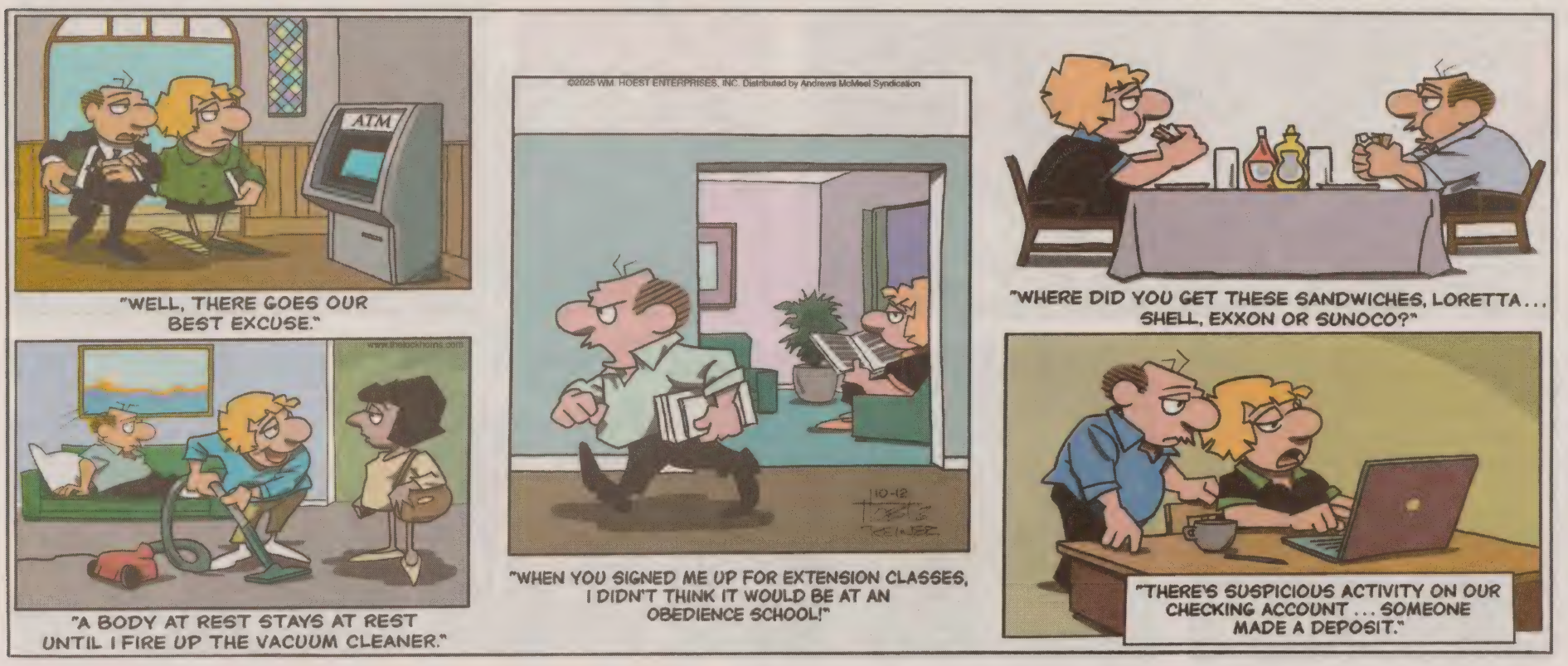
SUNDAY COMICS

THE FAMILY CIRCUS®



THE LOCKHORNS

BY BUNNY HOEST AND JOHN REINER

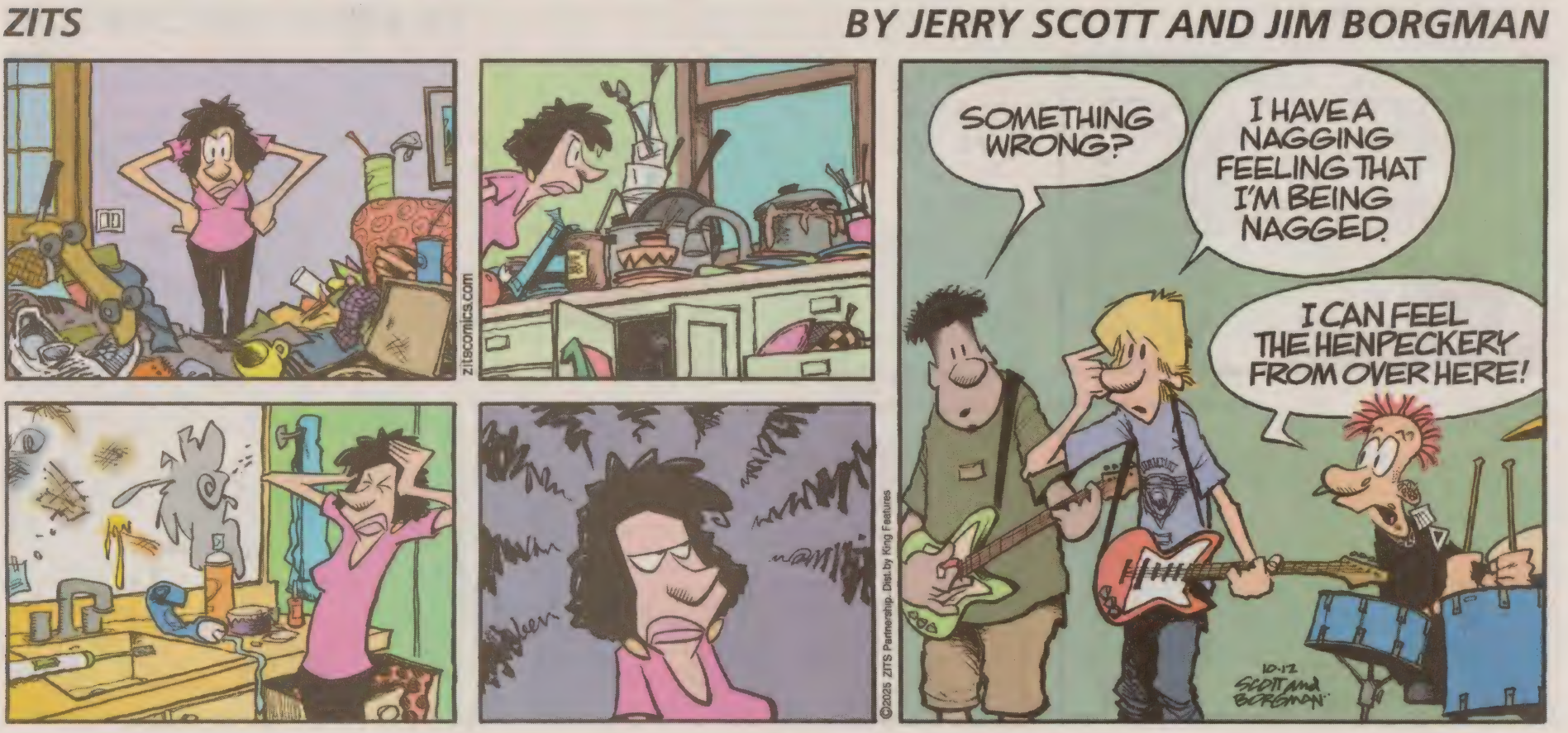

ATM
"WELL, THERE GOES OUR BEST EXCUSE."
"A BODY AT REST STAYS AT REST UNTIL I FIRE UP THE VACUUM CLEANER."
©2025 WM. HOEST ENTERPRISES, INC. Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication
10-12
"WHEN YOU SIGNED ME UP FOR EXTENSION CLASSES, I DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD BE AT AN OBEDIENCE SCHOOL!"
"WHERE DID YOU GET THESE SANDWICHES, LORETTA... SHELL, EXXON OR SUNOCO?"
"THERE'S SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY ON OUR CHECKING ACCOUNT ... SOMEONE MADE A DEPOSIT."

WIZARD OF ID

BY MASON MASTROIANNI AND MICK MASTROIANNI

ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN


zitscomics.com
SOMETHING WRONG?
I HAVE A NAGGING FEELING THAT I'M BEING NAGGED.
I CAN FEEL THE HENPECKERY FROM OVER HERE!
10-12
SCOTT and BORGMAN
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- Discontinued styles and colors

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Mr. Heater
PORTABLE BUDDY HEATER
- Approved for indoor use

AFTER MONDAY $89.99

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HANDGUNS ARE NOT AVAILABLE IN ANDERSON (IN) AND LAVALE (MD).

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CEDAR BRANCH INSULATED PARKA OR BIB
- Available in men's and women's
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SAVE $30
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AFTER MONDAY $79.99

SAVE $40
$139.99
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17' SKY RISE ULTRA-WIDE LADDER
- Platform: 18" x 10"
- Weighs: 44 lbs.
- Capacity: 300 lbs.

MUDDY

AFTER MONDAY $149.99

SAVE $50
$149.99
Reg. $199.99
18' CROSSFIRE XT 2-MAN LADDER
- Platform: 38" x 12"
- Weighs: 53 lbs.
- Capacity: 500 lbs.

MUDDY

Includes 2 full body safety harnesses!

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SAVE $60
$219.99
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BONE COLLECTOR HD 405 CROSSBOW PACKAGE
- Includes Lumix scope, 3 bolts, quiver, rope sled cocker

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MEN'S CAMO BRUSHLAND MUD BOOTS
- Insulation: 5mm
- Comfort range: -20° F to 70° F

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MEN'S VAPRTREK 400G BOOTS
- Scentban™ odor control
- Armatec™ XT abrasion resistant protective coating

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AMBUSH BLIND
- 58" x 58" x 64" dimensions
- Quick set spring steel blind

WATERPROOF

AFTER MONDAY $59.99

SAVE $50
$119.99
Reg. $169.99
ENCOUNTER 250 BLIND
- 58" x 58" x 67" dimensions
- 75" hub to hub

MUDDY

AFTER MONDAY $129.99

SAVE $70
$149.99
Reg. $219.99
PREDATOR 270 HUNTING OR OUTLOOK 270 DELUXE BLIND
- Assortment varies by store

PRIMAL

AFTER MONDAY $159.99

SAVE $110
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Reg. $349.99
G3C 9MM
- Assortment varies by store

TAURUS

AFTER MONDAY $249.99

SAVE $100
$399.99
Reg. $499.99
AXIS XP RIFLE PACKAGE
- Assortment varies by store
- Includes 350 Legend caliber
- Not available in all stores but special orders available, check local store for availability

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AFTER MONDAY $429.99

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110 WOODLAND HUNTER PACKAGE
- Tungsten cerakote barrel and action
- Vortex diamondback 4-12x40 scope included

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SAVE $25
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BROWTINE 20MP GAME CAMERA KIT
- Includes batteries and SD card

STEALTH CAM

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SAVE $40
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Reg. $119.99
LR450 RANGEFINDER
- 7x magnification
- 24mm lens

MUDDY

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SAVE $60
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ROMEO 5 GEN II
- Rugged design

SIG SAUER

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-5.00 MFG REBATE
AFTER REBATE SAVE $13
YOUR FINAL PRICE
$22.99
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- Assortment varies by store

WINCHESTER

AFTER MONDAY $24.99 AFTER REBATE

SAVE $6
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Reg. $29.99
9MM FMJ AMMO
- 100 round
- Assortment varies by store

WINCHESTER

BROWNING

AFTER MONDAY $25.99

SAVE $28
$81.99
Reg. $109.99
5.56 OR 223 FMJ AMMO
- 150 round
- 55 grain
- Assortment varies by store

WINCHESTER

AFTER MONDAY $89.99

SAVE $60
$139.99
Reg. $199.99
10 GUN CABINET
- 53" x 17" x 13.5" dimensions
- Key lock

STACK-ON

AFTER MONDAY $159.99

SAVE $220
$579.99
Reg. $799.99
30+4 GUN FIRE RATED SAFE
- 55" x 25" x 19" dimensions
- 60 minute fire rating
- Stores 30 long guns/ 4 handguns
- Door organizer

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SAVE $350
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Reg. $1199.99
64 GUN FIREPROOF SAFE
- 55" x 40" x 22" dimensions
- 60 minute fire rating
- Stores 64 long guns/9 handguns
- Door organizer

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SAVE $50
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Reg. $299.99
22' MITIGATOR 1.5-MAN LADDER
- Platform: 23.5" x 29"
- Weighs: 61 lbs.
- Capacity: 350 lbs.

MUDDY

Includes a full body safety harness!

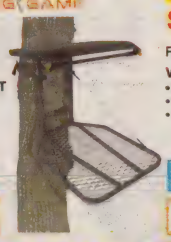
SAVE $50
$349.99
Reg. $399.99
FUSION READY TO HUNT BOW PACKAGE
- Includes 4 pin sight, rest, quiver, stabilizer, sling, peep and D loop

LIMITLESS READY TO HUNT JR BOW PACKAGE REG. $249.99..... $199.99

SAVE $10
$69.99
Reg. $79.99
CAPTAIN HANG-ON WITH FLEX TEK SEAT
- Platform: 20" x 27"
- Weighs: 15 lbs.
- Capacity: 300 lbs.

BIG GAME

Includes a full body safety harness!



20' CLIMBING STICK REG. $79.99..... $64.99

SAVE $20
$89.99
Reg. $109.99
VANTAGE HANG-ON
- Platform: 24" x 30"
- Weighs: 14 lbs.
- Capacity: 300 lbs.

MUDDY

Includes a full body safety harness!

THE SAFE LINE ROPE REG. $39.99..... $29.99

SAVE $20
$119.99
Reg. $139.99
MADMAN XLT HANG-ON
- Platform: 19" x 10"
- Weighs: 40 lbs.
- Capacity: 300 lbs.

MUDDY

Includes a full body safety harness!

MAGNUM PRO HARNESS REG. $49.99..... $39.99

SAVE $20
$129.99
Reg. $149.99
BOSS XL HANG-ON
- Platform: 25" x 34"
- Weight: 20 lbs.
- Capacity: 300 lbs.

MUDDY

Includes a full body safety harness!

SAVE $70
$229.99
Reg. $299.99
VIPER STEEL CLIMBER
- Platform: 20" x 35"
- Weighs: 29 lbs.
- Capacity: 300 lbs.

Includes a full body safety harness!

VIPER SD CLIMBING TREESTAND REG. $379.99..... $329.99

SAVE $40
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Reg. $219.99
18'6" DROPTINE HD 1.5-MAN LADDER
- Flip-up Flex-Tek seat, backrest, full platform, oval construction
- Platform: 23.5" x 29"
- Weighs: 61 lbs.
- Capacity: 350 lbs.

MUDDY

Includes a full body safety harness!

SAVE $40
$239.99
Reg. $279.99
22' BIG DADDY WITH LOCKJAW OR 22' MAC DADDY DELUXE LADDER
- Assortment varies by store

OMAN PRIMAL

Includes 2 full body safety harnesses!

3-PACK ASCEND OR FAST STICKS CLIMBING STICKS REG. $64.99..... $59.99

SAVE $30
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Reg. $279.99
18' MARKSMAN OR 18' DOUBLE VANTAGE 2-MAN LADDER
- Assortment varies by store

OMAN PRIMAL

Includes 2 full body safety harnesses!

SAVE $30
$319.99
Reg. $349.99
18' BIG DENALI 2-MAN LADDER
- Not available in all stores, check local store for availability

HAWK

Includes 2 full body safety harnesses!

20' BIG DENALI SLS 1.5-MAN LADDER TREESTAND REG. $269.99..... $229.99

SAVE $100
$499.99
Reg. $599.99
MESA 10' QUAD POD WITH BLIND KIT

MUDDY

Includes a full body safety harness!

BARRONETT INSIGHT 180 DEGREE SEE THROUGH BLIND REG. $179.99..... $149.99

SAVE $60
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Reg. $399.99
BONE COLLECTOR HD 415 CROSSBOW PACKAGE WITH CRANK
- Includes illuminated Lumix scope, quiver, silent crank, 3 bolts

KILLER INSTINCT

Dunham's EXCLUSIVE

SAVE $100
$349.99
Reg. $449.99
BLACK OPS XP390 CROSSBOW PACKAGE
- Includes scope, quiver, bolts, rope cocking device

BARNETT

Dunham's EXCLUSIVE

SAVE $70
$429.99
Reg. $499.99
SPARTAN XP400 CROSSBOW PACKAGE WITH CRANK
- Includes 4x32 scope, quiver, bolts and crank cocking device

BARNETT

Dunham's EXCLUSIVE

SAVE $100
$499.99
Reg. $599.99
ALPHA XP410 CROSSBOW PACKAGE
- Includes 4x32 illuminated scope, bolts, quiver, crank cocking device

BARNETT

Dunham's EXCLUSIVE

CARBON EXPRESS 6-PACK WHITETAIL CROSSBOW BOLTS REG. $39.99..... $29.99

$559.99
-50.00 MFG REBATE
YOUR FINAL PRICE
$509.99
Reg. $599.99
LOGIX DE 435 CROSSBOW PACKAGE
- Includes: 4x32 illuminated scope, (3) 20" bolts, sled rope cocker

AFTER REBATE SAVE $90

KILLER INSTINCT

HYPER LITE CROSSBOLTS REG. $54.99..... $44.99

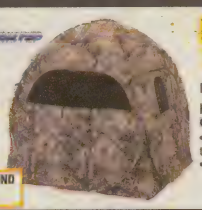
SAVE $50
$649.99
Reg. $699.99
RAPTOR 410 CROSSBOW PACKAGE
- Includes: 4x36 illuminated scope, (3) bolts, rope cocker device

BARNETT

HEADHUNTER CROSSBOW BOLTS REG. $69.99..... $59.99

BLINDS

SAVE $20
$79.99
Reg. $99.99
DOGHOUSE
- 60" x 60" x 66" dimensions
- Spring steel blind pops open in one easy step



CARE TAKER WIDE BOTTOM BLIND REG. $149.99..... $129.99

SAVE $30
$149.99
Reg. $179.99
BRICKHOUSE COMBO
- Includes blind and tripod chair
- 67" tall

FREE! CHAIR INCLUDED!

SAVE $40
$169.99
Reg. $209.99
ENCOUNTER 350
- 70" x 70" x 80"
- 90" hub to hub

MUDDY

ENCOUNTER 150 BLIND REG. $139.99..... $109.99

SAVE $70
$189.99
Reg. $259.99
CARNIVORE 270 OR HARVESTER 270 COMBO
- Assortment varies by store

OMAN PRIMAL

FREE! CHAIR INCLUDED!

SAVE $170
$729.99
Reg. $899.99
RANGE
- 75" x 72" x 85" dimensions
- Not available in all stores, check local store for availability

GAME CAMERAS

SAVE $10
$39.99
Reg. $49.99
PROCAM 20
- 120mp SD game camera
- 80' infrared flash range

MUDDY

SD CARD

MOULTRIE EDGE 2 SCOUT-N-SCRAPE GAME CAMERA COMBO REG. $79.99..... $69.99

SAVE $10
$69.99
Reg. $79.99
MERGE 2.0 KIT
- Includes batteries and SD card

MUDDY

CELLULAR

MUDDY CARD READER REG. $79.99..... $59.99

SAVE $20
$109.99
Reg. $129.99
2-PACK MITIGATOR 2.0 KIT
- 24MP
- 80 ft. infrared flash

MUDDY

CELLULAR

SAVE $30
$119.99
Reg. $149.99
2-PACK DOUBLEBROW KIT
- 24MP
- 80 ft. infrared flash

STEALTH CAM

SD CARD

TS HD CARD READER REG. $89.99..... $69.99

SAVE $30
$119.99
Reg. $149.99
REVEAL X 3.0
- 1080P fhd video
- 96 ft. range

TACTACAM

CELLULAR

STEALTH CAM DECEPTOR MAX 2.0 GAME CAMERA REG. $149.99..... $119.99

SAVE $30
$149.99
Reg. $179.99
REVOLVER PRO 2.0
- 40MP
- 100 ft. infrared flash

STEALTH CAM

CELLULAR

FUSION MAX 2.0 GAME CAMERA REG. $119.99..... $99.99

Prices Good Saturday, October 11 thru Thursday, October 16, 2025. Sorry, no rainchecks for any sale priced items.

Not all Dunham's Sports locations carry all products. To see which specific Dunham's locations carry which products, please visit https://www.dunhamssports.com/store-locator.

OCTOBER 12, 2025 PREPRINT 10134 25-P-042

NEW AT DUNHAM'S!

DREAM - PLAN - HUSTLE - REPEAT

$68.00 MEN'S ORIGIN 300 HOODIE

MUNICIPAL

Co-founded by Mark Wahlberg

CARHARTT

$59.99 MEN'S LOGO SLEEVE HOODIE
• Style K288

$59.99 WOMEN'S LOGO SLEEVE HOODIE
• Style 102791

BIG AND TALL.....$64.99

40% OFF

ALL REGULAR PRICED CHAMPION TEES, TANKS AND FLEECE FOR THE FAMILY IN STOCK
• Men's sizes S-2XL
• Women's sizes XS-XL

Champion

SAVE UP TO $25

$34.99
Reg. to $60.00
MEN'S OR WOMEN'S FLEECE
• Men's S-2XL
• Women's S-XL

PUMA

SAVE UP TO $25

$39.99
Reg. to $65.00
MEN'S OR WOMEN'S FLEECE
• Men's sizes S-2XL, 3X and tall sizes in select styles
• Women's sizes XS-XL

adidas

BOYS' OR GIRLS' FLEECE REG.TO $45.00.....$29.99

SAVE UP TO 30% OFF APPAREL AND FOOTWEAR*

*SAVINGS REFLECTED OFF SELECT ITEMS' REGULAR PRICE

FASHION LOOKS FOR THE FAMILY

SAVE $4
$12.99
Reg. $16.99
MEN'S EVERYDAY FLANNEL
• Sizes S-3XL and tall sizes in select styles
• Excludes Brawny Flannels
CANYON CREEK

SAVE $7
$17.99
Reg. $24.99
MEN'S LINED CASUAL PANTS
FULL BLUE

BOYS' FLANNEL REG. $14.99.....$9.99

SAVE UP TO $10
$19.99
Reg. to $29.99
MEN'S FLEECE
• Sizes S-2XL, 3X and tall sizes in select styles
• Men's model is wearing Summit Silicon Tek 1/4 zip hoodie and Michael fleece pants
• Boys' model is wearing Michael Fleece hoodie and pants
POWERFLEX

BOYS' WOVEN PANTS AND FLEECE REG. TO $24.99.....$16.99

SAVE $10
$24.99
Reg. $34.99
MEN'S FLEECE
• Sizes S-2XL
• 3XL and Tall sizes in select styles and colors
• Model is wearing Everest Washed Fleece Hoodie and Pants
BISON RIDGE

SAVE $5
$19.99
Reg. $24.99
MEN'S WOVEN PANTS
• Excludes fleece
• Sizes S-XL

ASPEN SUPREME WAFFLE HOODIE REG. $24.99.....$19.99

SAVE UP TO $10
$24.99
Reg. to $34.99
WOMEN'S CARDIGAN OR SHACKET
90 DEGREE BY REFLEX
Como Vintage®
harmony balance

SAVE $8
$16.99
Reg. $24.99
WOMEN'S LEGGINGS OR FLARES
• Sizes XS-XL, 1X-3X
YOGA
Yogalux®

WOMEN'S COZY FLEECE OR CARDIGAN REG. $34.99.....$24.99

SAVE $5
$24.99
Reg. $29.99
WOMEN'S FLEECE
90 DEGREE BY REFLEX
Embrace Your Life
CANYON CREEK
SOLA
ebb & flow

SAVE $8
$16.99
Reg. $24.99
WOMEN'S LEGGINGS OR FLARES
• Sizes XS-XL, 1X-3X
Yogalux®
90 DEGREE BY REFLEX
YOGA

SAVE $5
$34.99
Reg. $39.99
WOMEN'S TOP OR BOTTOM IN SCUBA FLEECE
Pulse
Yogalux®
YOGA
harmony balance

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S APPAREL

25% OFF
ALL REGULAR PRICED CANADA WEATHER GEAR MEN'S APPAREL IN STOCK

SALE PRICES STARTING AT $26.24

25% OFF
ALL REGULAR PRICED SPYDER MEN'S FLEECE, PANTS, COMPRESSION AND COLD WEATHER COMPRESSION IN STOCK
• Sizes S-3XL

SALE PRICES STARTING AT $16.49

SAVE UP TO $5
$9.99
Reg. to $14.99
LOUNGE PANTS AND TOPS FOR THE FAMILY
• Men's S-2XL, and tall sizes
• Women's XS-2XL
• Youth S-XL, little boys, and little girls
CANYON CREEK

SAVE UP TO $5
$14.99
Reg. to $19.99
SHERPA LINED FLEECE FOR THE FAMILY
• Men's S-3XL, tall sizes in select styles
• Women's S-XL, 1X-3X
CANYON CREEK
Seven Apparel®
BSP

GREAT BUY!
$9.99
MEN'S UNLINED JEANS
• Styles 90203-LW, 90209-LW, 90375-MW, 90203-DW, 90940-MD, 90209-MD
FULL BLUE

SAVE UP TO $10
$14.99
Reg. to $24.99
MEN'S WOVEN PANTS OR FLEECE
• Excludes Leg3nd Outdoor
• Pants sizes S-XL
• Fleece sizes S-2XL and talls
LEGEND

SAVE $3
$16.99
Reg. $19.99
GIRLS' FLEECE OR JACKET
90 DEGREE BY REFLEX
CANYON CREEK
SOLA
ebb & flow

SAVE $3
$16.99
Reg. $19.99
MEN'S BRAWNY FLANNEL
• Excludes everyday flannel
• Sizes S-3X and talls
CANYON CREEK

WORK WEAR

25% OFF
ALL REGULAR PRICED CANYON CREEK WOMEN'S SHERPA LINED SHIRT JACKETS IN STOCK
• Sizes S-XL
CANYON CREEK

SAVE $2
$14.99
Reg. $16.99
WOMEN'S OR GIRLS' KNIT FLANNEL
• Excludes sherpa lined fleece
CANYON CREEK

WOMEN'S KNIT SHIRT JACKET REG. $24.99.....$19.99

SAVE $8
$21.99
Reg. $29.99
WOMEN'S SHIRT JACKET
• Sizes S-2XL
CANYON CREEK

SAVE $8
$21.99
Reg. $29.99
MEN'S SHIRT JACKET
• Sizes S-2XL
FLINT

BIG AND TALL REG. $34.99.....$24.99

OUTERWEAR

GREAT BUY!
$10.99
Reg. $12.99
MEN'S OR WOMEN'S LEATHER GLOVES
IGLOOS

20% OFF
ALL REGULAR PRICED PULSE MEN'S OR WOMEN'S INSULATED JACKETS IN STOCK
Pulse

20% OFF
ALL REGULAR PRICED COLUMBIA MEN'S POWDER LITE JACKET IN STOCK
• Discontinued colors
Columbia

SAVE $10
$39.99
Reg. $49.99
YOUTH INSULATED JACKET
• Sizes S-XL, child and youth
Pulse

STARTING AT $70.00
MEN'S SPECIALIST
• Sizes S-2XL
• Priced as marked
UNDER ARMOUR

SAVE $10
$129.95
Reg. $139.95
WOMEN'S GALAXY SKI JACKET
ROXY

UNDERWEAR

$19.99
MEN'S UNDERWEAR SINGLES
• S-2XL
ODD SOX

BROOKS RUNNING SHOES STARTING AT $85.00

$85.00
MEN'S OR WOMEN'S ANTHEM 7
BROOKS

SAVE $40
$99.99
Reg. $140.00
MEN'S OR WOMEN'S GHOST 16
BROOKS

$100.00
MEN'S OR WOMEN'S TRACE 4
BROOKS

SAVE $20
$119.99
Reg. $140.00
MEN'S OR WOMEN'S ADRENALINE 24
BROOKS

Not available in all stores, check local store for availability

SOCKS AND SLIPPERS

BUY 1 GET 1 FREE
ALL REGULAR PRICED FIRESIDE CABIN SOCKS FOR THE FAMILY IN STOCK
• Second item must be of equal or lesser value
FIRESIDE

25% OFF
SELECT REGULAR PRICED HEYDUDE CASUAL SHOES FOR THE FAMILY IN STOCK
HEY DUDE

STARTING AT $39.99
CLOGS FOR THE FAMILY
• Priced as marked
FLEECE LINED STARTING AT $49.99
crocs

BUY 1 GET 1 50% OFF
ALL REGULAR PRICED UNDER ARMOUR SOCKS FOR THE FAMILY IN STOCK
• Second item must be of equal or lesser value
UNDER ARMOUR

ATHLETIC SHOES STARTING AT $49.99

SAVE UP TO $10 MEN'S SUMMITS LOUVIN OR WOMEN'S SUMMITS ATHLETIC CASUAL SHOES
• Excludes Slip-Ins
$49.99
Reg. to $59.99
SKECHERS

SAVE $10 MEN'S OR WOMEN'S SURGE 4 RUNNING SHOES
$54.99
Reg. $65.00
UNDER ARMOUR

SAVE $10 MEN'S LITE RACER ADAPT 7.0 RUNNING SHOES
$59.99
Reg. $70.00
adidas
AVAILABLE IN TWO WIDTHS

SAVE UP TO $15 MEN'S OR WOMEN'S 608 TRAINING SHOES
• Available in wide width
$64.99
Reg. to $79.99
NEW BALANCE

SAVE $10 MEN'S OR WOMEN'S ASSERT 10 RUNNING SHOES
$64.99
Reg. $75.00
UNDER ARMOUR
AVAILABLE IN TWO WIDTHS

SAVE $10 MEN'S AFTER BURN ATHLETIC CASUAL SHOES
$64.99
Reg. $74.99
SKECHERS
AVAILABLE IN TWO WIDTHS

SAVE UP TO $15 MEN'S DYNASOFT NITREL V6 WIDE RUNNING SHOES
$64.99
Reg. to $79.99
NEW BALANCE

SAVE $15 MEN'S CHARGED BANDIT TR 3 WP RUNNING SHOES
$74.99
Reg. $90.00
UNDER ARMOUR

30% OFF
ALL REGULAR PRICED NEW BALANCE MEN'S OR WOMEN'S SOCKS IN STOCK
NEW BALANCE

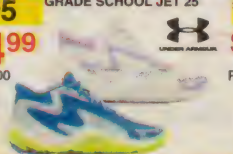
BASKETBALL SHOES STARTING AT $44.99

SAVE $10 YOUTH OWNTHEGAME 3.0
$44.99
Reg. $55.00
adidas

ADULT REG. $65.00.....$50.99

SAVE $5 PRESCHOOL JET 25
$49.99
Reg. $55.00
UNDER ARMOUR

SAVE $5 GRADE SCHOOL JET 25
$54.99
Reg. $60.00
UNDER ARMOUR



SAVE $15 ADULT LOCKDOWN 7 MID
$54.99
Reg. $70.00
UNDER ARMOUR

SAVE $15 ADULT CURRY 3Z 24
$69.99
Reg. $85.00
UNDER ARMOUR

20% OFF
ALL REGULAR PRICED ADIDAS SOCKS FOR THE FAMILY IN STOCK
adidas

WRESTLING SHOES STARTING AT $49.99

SAVE $10 YOUTH MATFLEX 7
$49.99
Reg. $60.00
asics

GREAT BUY! YOUTH HVC 2
$54.99
Reg. $55.00
adidas

SAVE $5 ADULT MATFLEX 7
$59.99
Reg. $65.00
asics

SAVE UP TO $5 ADULT HVC 2
$64.99
Reg. to $69.99
adidas

SAVE $5 ADULT SPEEDSWEEP VIII
$64.99
Reg. $70.00
NIKE

YOUTH REG. $65.00.....$54.99

20% OFF
ALL REGULAR PRICED HEAT HOLDERS SOCKS FOR THE FAMILY IN STOCK
Heat Holders

20% OFF
ALL REGULAR PRICED MUK LUKS SOCKS AND SLIPPERS FOR THE FAMILY IN STOCK
MUK LUKS

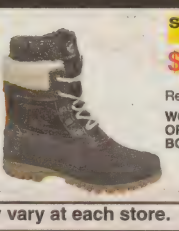
WOMEN'S COLD WEATHER BOOTS

SAVE $5
$29.99
Reg. $34.99
WOMEN'S PARK CITY CASUAL BOOTS
APRÈS

SAVE $10
$29.99
Reg. $39.99
WOMEN'S ULTRA MINI COLD WEATHER BOOTS
CANYON CREEK

SAVE $10
$34.99
Reg. $44.99
WOMEN'S CLARA WINTER BOOTS
TAMARACK

SAVE $10
$39.99
Reg. $49.99
WOMEN'S LODGE DUCK BOOTS
TAMARACK



SAVE $10
$39.99
Reg. $49.99
WOMEN'S CABIN OR CHALET DUCK BOOTS
TAMARACK

SAVE $10
$34.99
Reg. $44.99
WOMEN'S ANNA CLOG SLIPPERS
TAMARACK

For items on this page, assortment may vary at each store.

Free Bore Sighting With Any Purchase of Scope or Rifle

SEE STORES FOR DETAILS

HANDGUNS ARE NOT AVAILABLE IN ANDERSON (IN) AND LAVALE (MD).

CERTAIN FIREARMS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE IN ALL STATES DUE TO LOCAL AND STATE REGULATIONS.

HANDGUNS

SAVE $35
$189.99
Reg. $224.99
M20 22LR SD
- Threaded barrel
- Not available in IL and MN stores

SAVE $120
$229.99
Reg. $349.99
EC9S 9MM
- Integrated trigger safety and manual safety

LCP 380 REG. $339.99....$219.99

SAVE $75
$249.99
Reg. $324.99
P22 22LR
- Assortment varies by store
- Not available in IL and MN stores

WMP 22MAG REG. $549.99....$379.99

SAVE $80
$249.99
Reg. $329.99
G2X 9MM
- Assortment varies by store

G3 9MM REG. $349.99....$279.99

SAVE $50
$299.99
Reg. $349.99
SD 2.0 9MM OR 40S&W
- Assortment varies by store

SAVE $45
$379.99
Reg. $424.99
1911 A1 SERVICE OR M1911-A1 45 ACP
- Assortment varies by store

TISAS 1911 DUTY 45 AUTO REG. $649.99....$599.99

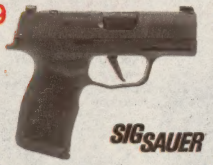
SAVE $25
$399.99
Reg. $424.99
BODYGUARD 2.0 380
- Magazine capacity: 10 & 12

SAVE $100
$399.99
Reg. $499.99
RXM 9MM
- Includes 2 magpul pmag gl9 15 round magazines

SAVE $100
$399.99
Reg. $499.99
SHIELD PLUS 9MM
- Assortment varies by store

SAVE UP TO $80
$449.99
Reg. to $529.99
G43 OR G43X 9MM
- Assortment varies by store

SAVE $50
$499.99
Reg. $549.99
P365 9MM OPTIC READY
- Assortment varies by store



SAVE $50
$589.99
Reg. $639.99
G19X 9MM CROSSOVER

SAVE $80
$599.99
Reg. $679.99
METE MC9 PRIME
- Night fision tritium sights

SAVE $100
$649.99
Reg. $749.99
HELLCAT PRO OSP 9MM LASER PACKAGE

XD MOD 3 9MM OSP REG. $344.99....$299.99

SAVE $50
$699.99
Reg. $749.99
P365 MACRO OR P365 FUSE 9MM
- Assortment varies by store

SAVE $50
$949.99
Reg. $999.99
TTI COMBAT 9MM
- Not available in all stores, check local store for availability

RIVAL SFX 9MM REG. $699.99....$629.99

RIFLES

SAVE $25
$199.99
Reg. $224.99
TM22 22LR FEATHER SEMI-AUTO
- 18" barrel

TM22 18" 22LR SEMI-AUTO REG. $139.99....$119.99

SAVE $100
$249.99
Reg. $349.99
10/22 CARBINE
- Assortment varies by store

SAVE $130
$349.99
Reg. $479.99
GSG-16 SEMI-AUTO 22LR
- Collapsible stock that also serves as an additional magazine storage

SAVE $70
$429.99
Reg. $499.99
PATRIOT RIFLE PACKAGE
- Assortment varies by store
- Includes 450 Bushmaster and 350 Legend caliber

SAVAGE AXIS II PRECISION VORTEX COMBO REG. $1199.99....$999.99

SAVE $70
$479.99
Reg. $549.99
15-22 SPORT WITH RED DOT
- Semi-auto
- A2 flash hider, 2" m-lock rail panel

SAVE $150
$499.99
Reg. $649.99
15DSR-M4 5.56 RIFLE
- 15' M-Lok free float rail system

SAVE UP TO $130
$599.99
Reg. to $729.99
FPC 9MM CARBINE
- Black finish
- Carrying bag, compact folding design

SAVE $100
$599.99
Reg. $699.99
AMERICAN GEN 2 RIFLE
- Assortment varies by store

SAVE UP TO $250
$699.99
Reg. to $949.99
AR-556 OR 15 SPORT III
- Assortment varies by store

SAVE $200
$1249.99
Reg. $1449.99
M400 TREAD V2 TANGO PACKAGE
- Includes tango msr 1-6x24 lpvo scope

SHOTGUNS

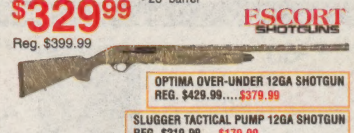
SAVE $45
$279.99
Reg. $324.99
12GA SHOTGUN COMBO
- Includes 28" field barrel and 18.5 home defense barrel

MOSSBERG 590 SHOCKWAVE 12GA REG. $499.99....$429.99

SAVE $200
$299.99
Reg. $499.99
BTS12 12GA BULLPUP SHOTGUN
- Assortment varies by store

BULLTAC PUMP 12GA SHOTGUN REG. $249.99....$219.99

SAVE $70
$329.99
Reg. $399.99
PS SEMI-AUTO 12GA OR 20GA SHOTGUN
- 28" barrel



OPTIMA OVER-UNDER 12GA SHOTGUN REG. $429.99....$379.99

SLUGGER TACTICAL PUMP 12GA SHOTGUN REG. $219.99....$179.99

$399.99
-10% OFF MFG REBATE
YOUR FINAL PRICE
$359.99
Reg. $469.99
SXP HYBRID HUNTER 12GA SHOTGUN
- Assortment varies by store

AFTER REBATE SAVE $110

MOSSBERG 500 FIELD AND DEER SCOPED COMBO REG. $499.99....$449.99

SAVE UP TO $100
$599.99
Reg. to $699.99
NOVA 3 CAMO 12GA SHOTGUN
- 28" barrel
- Includes ic, m, f chokes

NOVA 3 DEFENSE 12GA SHOTGUN REG. TO $599.99....$499.99

SAVE UP TO $100
$649.99
Reg. to $749.99
M3000 SEMI-AUTO 12GA SHOTGUN
- Max 7 camo
- 28" barrel

P3000 MAX-7 12GA SHOTGUN REG. $374.99....$349.99

CONDOR OVER & UNDER 12GA SHOTGUN REG. $379.99....$299.99

ALL REGULAR PRICED FIREARMS $150 AND ABOVE ON SALE

$25 OFF ALL REGULAR PRICED HANDGUNS FROM $150 TO $499.98

$50 OFF ALL REGULAR PRICED HANDGUNS FROM $499.99 AND UP

$25 OFF ALL REGULAR PRICED RIFLES AND SHOTGUNS FROM $150 TO $399.98

$50 OFF ALL REGULAR PRICED RIFLES AND SHOTGUNS FROM $399.99 TO $599.98

$100 OFF ALL REGULAR PRICED RIFLES AND SHOTGUNS FROM $599.99 AND UP

Assortment varies by store. Limited to stock on hand. Sorry, no rainchecks. Items reserved from the Dunham's Shooting Sports Warehouse do not apply. Certain firearms may not be available for purchase in all states due to local and state regulations.

Ammo Deals:

Receive NEW Ammo Sale Offers Weekly! Just sign up for our emails or text messages at dunhamssports.com/email

AMMO

SAVE $3.98 — 22LR MINI MAG
- Assortment varies by store
- 100 round

2/$20
Reg. $11.99 each
$10.00 each
CCI
22 WMR MAXI MAG AMMO REG. $19.99.....$17.99

SAVE $10 — 22LR
- 500 round
- Assortment varies by store

$29.99
Reg. $39.99
ARMSCOR

SAVE $10 — 22LR STANDARD V
- 550 round

$34.99
Reg. $44.99
Remington

SAVE $12 — 45ACP
- 50 round
- 230 grains

$20.99
Reg. $32.99
Blazer
380 AUTO FMJ 50 ROUND AMMO REG. $27.99.....$16.99
40 S&W FMJ 50 ROUND AMMO REG. $29.99.....$18.99

SAVE $8 — 9MM
- 200 round
- 115 grain
- Fmj

$51.99
Reg. $59.99
FEDERAL
FEDERAL CHAMPION OR BLAZER 9MM 50 ROUND AMMO REG. $14.99.....$12.99

SAVE $3 — 5.56MM OR 223 FMJ
- 20 round
- Assortment varies by store

$11.99
Reg. $14.99
USA 5.56MM, 5.56 FMJ M855 OR 223 FMJ AMMO REG. $149.99.....$119.99

SAVE $5 — 7.62X39 FMJ
- 139 grain

$16.99
Reg. $21.99
SIG SAUER 9MM ELITE V-CROWN REG. $19.99.....$17.99

$23.99 — WHITETAIL CENTERFIRE
- Assortment varies by store

-2.50 MFG REBATE
YOUR FINAL PRICE
$21.49
Reg. $29.99
AFTER REBATE SAVE $8.50
MUST PURCHASE 2 BOXES TO QUALIFY FOR REBATE

$27.99 — POWER-SHOK
- 234, 270, 308, 30.06 or 350 legend
- Assortment varies by store

-20% OFF MFG REBATE
YOUR FINAL PRICE
$22.39
Reg. $34.99
AFTER REBATE SAVE $12.60
MUST PURCHASE 2 BOXES TO QUALIFY FOR REBATE

$27.99 — CORE-LOKT
- .243, .270, .308, 30-06 or 6.5 creedmoor
- Assortment varies by store

-20% OFF MFG REBATE
YOUR FINAL PRICE
$22.39
Reg. $34.99
AFTER REBATE SAVE $12.60
MUST PURCHASE 2 BOXES TO QUALIFY FOR REBATE
30-30 150 OR 170 GRAIN AMMO REG. $32.99.....$21.59 AFTER REBATE

SAVE $7 — AMERICAN WHITETAIL CENTERFIRE
- Assortment varies by store

$27.99
Reg. $34.99
Hornady

$34.99 — DEER SEASON
- .243, .270, .308, 30.06 or 350 legend
- Assortment varies by store

-5.00 MFG REBATE
YOUR FINAL PRICE
$29.99
Reg. $41.99
AFTER REBATE SAVE $12
450 BUSHMASTER DEER SEASON XP 250 GRAIN AMMO REG. $54.99.....$44.99 AFTER REBATE

SAVE UP TO $9 — BLACK OR 450 BUSHMASTER FTX
- 250 grain bullet

$39.99
Reg. to $48.99
Hornady

SAVE $3 — SST OR CUSTOM LITE SLUGS
- 12GA or 20GA

$16.99
Reg. $19.99
Hornady

SAVE $10 — 12GA OR 20GA 00 BUCKSHOT
- 25 round

$17.99
Reg. $27.99
BLACK ACES 12GA SLUGS 10 ROUND REG. $12.99.....$10.99

SAVE $20 — GUN CLUB OR CASE OF FEDERAL TARGET LOADS
- Assortment varies by store

$99.99
Reg. $119.99
FEDERAL
12GA OR 20 GA GAME-SHOK OR GAME LOADS REG. $12.99.....$9.99
Remington

AMMO QUANTITIES LIMITED TO STOCK ON HAND. SORRY, NO RAINCHECKS.

SIGHTS AND SCOPES

SAVE $8 — 1X30 REFLEX SIGHT
- 1x magnification
- Red dot
- 30mm optic lense

$31.99
Reg. $39.99
Firefield

SAVE $10 — 20X50 SPOTTING SCOPE
- Fully multi-coated optics

$39.99
Reg. $49.99
Firefield

SAVE $20 — COPPERHEAD 3-9X40 SCOPE
- Deadhold BDC reticle
- Waterproof, fogproof, shockproof

$119.99
Reg. $139.99
VORTEX OPTICS

SAVE $20 — COPPERHEAD 4-12X44 SCOPE
- Deadhold BDC reticle
- Waterproof, fogproof, shockproof

$129.99
Reg. $149.99
VORTEX OPTICS

SAVE $30 — BUCKMASTER 3-9X50 SCOPE
- Waterproof, fogproof, shockproof

$139.99
Reg. $169.99
SIG SAUER
BUCKMASTER 3-9X40 SCOPE REG. $149.99.....$119.99

$169.99 — CROSSFIRE II 4-12X44 SCOPE
- Fully multi-coated with anti-reflective lens coating for brighter views

VORTEX OPTICS
CROSSFIRE II 3-9X40 SCOPE.....$149.99

BINOCULARS AND RANGEFINDERS

SAVE $20
$99.99
Reg. $119.99
VORTEX OPTICS
COPPERHEAD HD 10X42 BINOCULARS
- Waterproof, fogproof, shockproof

CROSSFIRE HD 10X42 BINOCULARS.....$149.99

SAVE $30
$99.99
Reg. $129.99
SIMMONS
PROHUNTER 800 RANGEFINDER
- 6x magnification
- Up to 800 yard

SAVE $30
$119.99
Reg. $149.99
MUDDY
LR650 RANGEFINDER
- 650 yard range
- 7x magnification
- 24mm lens

VORTEX OPTICS

$199.99
CROSSFIRE HD 1400 RANGEFINDER
- Waterproof
- Carry case, lens cloth

VORTEX OPTICS

SAFES

SAVE $10
$54.99
Reg. $64.99
Bulldog Cases
STANDARD DIGITAL VAULT
- 7" x 12" x 8" dimensions

SAVE $60
$189.99
Reg. $249.99
14 GUN CABINET
- 55" x 21" x 16" dimensions
- 3 point locking systems
- Assortment varies by store

STACK-ON

SAVE $50
$249.99
Reg. $299.99
18 GUN SECURITY CABINET
- 55" x 21" x 18" dimensions
- Three point lock

STACK-ON

SAVE $70
$429.99
Reg. $499.99
14 GUN FIREPROOF
- 55" x 17" x 18" dimensions
- 30 minute fire rating
- 14 long guns

SPORTS AFIELD

SAVE $300
$599.99
Reg. $899.99
24 GUN FIREPROOF
- 59" x 26" x 20" dimensions
- 45 minute fire rating
- Stores 24 long guns/4 handguns
- Door organizer

SPORTS AFIELD

SAVE $150
$749.99
Reg. $899.99
42 GUN FIRE RATED
- 55" x 29.25" x 20" dimensions
- 60 minute fire rating
- Stores 42 long guns/6 handguns
- Door organizer

SPORTS AFIELD
72+8 GUN FIREPROOF SAFE REG. $1499.99.....$1299.99

SAVE $300
$999.99
Reg. $1299.99
24+4 GUN LONG RANGE
- 59" x 26.5" x 21.5" dimensions
- 1400 degrees/90 minutes fire rating
- Stores 24 long guns/4 handguns

Remington
36+4 LONG RANGE SAFE REG. $1499.99.....$1099.99

SAVE $500
$1299.99
Reg. $1799.99
48+8 GUN LONG RANGE
- 59" x 38" x 25" dimensions
- 1400 degrees/90 minutes fire rating
- Stores 48 long guns/8 handguns

Remington
80+8 LONG RANGE SAFE REG. $1999.99.....$1699.99

30% OFF ALL WORLD FAMOUS SPORTS HUNTING APPAREL*

25% OFF ALL MUDDY AND HABIT HUNTING APPAREL*

25% OFF ALL HABIT, REALTREE AND HUNTWORTH TEES AND HOODIES*

20% OFF ALL BROWNING AND GAMEHIDE HUNTING APPAREL*

* ASSORTMENT VARIES BY STORE. SAVINGS REFLECTED OFF REGULAR PRICE. LIMITED TO STOCK ON HAND. SORRY, NO RAINCHECKS.

20% OFF

ALL REGULAR PRICED CAMO PACKS IN STOCK
• Assortment varies by store

SAVE $10
$39.99
Reg. $49.99
SWIVEL BLIND CHAIR

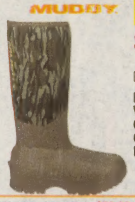
SAVE $20
$79.99
Reg. $99.99
DELUXE SWIVEL OR HEATED ENGAGED BLIND CHAIR

HUNTING AND MUD BOOTS

SAVE $4
$18.99
Reg. $22.99
MEN'S COMFORT TECH MUD BOOTS
• Waterproof rubber uppers and outsole

SAVE $10
$89.99
Reg. $99.99
MEN'S OR WOMEN'S SWAMPWALKER 1000 MUD BOOTS
• 100% scent free

SAVE $20
$109.99
Reg. $129.99
MEN'S MTX 17" 1600G INSULATED MUD BOOTS



MEN'S MTX ANKLE BOOTS REG. $89.99.....$79.99

SAVE $10
$129.99
Reg. $139.99
MEN'S TALL OR WOMEN'S MID CHORE CLASSIC MUD BOOTS

SAVE $20
$49.99
Reg. $69.99
MEN'S, WOMEN'S OR YOUTH BIG BUCK 800 HUNTING BOOTS

SAVE $20
$79.99
Reg. $99.99
MEN'S CARBINE 1000 HUNTING BOOTS

SAVE $20
$129.99
Reg. $149.99
MEN'S WILDCAT CAMO 8" MEDIUM FIELD BOOTS

$145.00
MEN'S CHARGED VALSETZ

MEN'S STELLAR G2 SIDE ZIP....$110.00

ITASCA BOOTS FOR THE FAMILY

SAVE $20
$59.99
Reg. $79.99
MEN'S, WOMEN'S OR YOUTH HUNTING BOOTS
• Choose from Slough Creek Stalker or Swamp Rat Ankle
• Assortment varies by store

SLOUGH CREEK

SWAMP RAT ANKLE

WADERS

SAVE $10
$39.99
Reg. $49.99
RANA II PVC CLEATED HIP WADERS
• Lightweight PVC construction

SAVE $10
$49.99
Reg. $59.99
RANA II CLEATED CHEST PVC WADERS
• Nylon-reinforced PVC upper with waterproof boot attachment

SAVE $10
$109.99
Reg. $119.99
CASCADES 2-PLY CLEATED CHEST WADERS
• Tough 2-ply 300 denier poly/rubber fabrication

SAVE $30
$119.99
Reg. $149.99
AMPHIB 3.5MM CHEST NEOPRENE WADERS
• High back design for deep water wading

HIKERS AND WORK BOOTS

SAVE UP TO $15
$39.99
Reg. to $54.99
MEN'S MESA OR BEDROCK MID WATERPROOF HIKERS

SAVE $10
$59.99
Reg. $69.99
MEN'S RELMENT DAGGETT MID HIKERS

SAVE UP TO $15
$64.99
Reg. to $79.99
MEN'S 6" DEFIANT OR 8" DARIUS STEEL TOE WORK BOOTS

SAVE $10
$69.99
Reg. $79.99
MEN'S OR WOMEN'S CROSSLANDER 3 LOW HIKERS

SAVE $10
$69.99
Reg. $79.99
MEN'S 6" IRONTON STEEL TOE WORK BOOTS

SAVE $10
$79.99
Reg. $89.99
MEN'S STRIVER STEEL TOE WORK BOOTS

SAVE UP TO $20
$89.99
Reg. to $109.99
MEN'S 6" FLOORHAND MOC OR STEEL TOE WORK BOOTS

SAVE $10
$99.99
Reg. $109.99
MEN'S MT. MADDSEN MID HIKERS

SAVE $20
$119.99
Reg. $139.99
MEN'S 9" SCORPION COMP TOE WORK BOOTS

DESTINATION DENIM

SAVE $3
$24.99
Reg. $27.99
MEN'S SIGNATURE GOLD JEANS
• Excludes Red Tab jeans
• Assortment varies by store

SAVE UP TO $29.51
$39.99
Reg. to $69.50
MEN'S RED TAB JEANS
• Sale ends 10/13/25
• Assortment varies by store

SAVE UP TO $20
$49.99
Reg. to $69.99
MEN'S RETRO DENIM
• Assortment varies by store

STARTING AT $59.95
MEN'S JEANS
• Priced as marked
• Assortment varies by store

RECEIVE DUNHAM'S SPORTS WEEKLY AD VIA TEXT MESSAGE!
TEXT "WEEKLY" TO 78557 - NEW SUBSCRIBERS
GET A 17% OFF 1 ITEM COUPON!

Mobile terms: Carrier messaging & data rates may apply. Recurring automated marketing messages will be sent to the number provided at opt-in. Text STOP to 78557 to opt-out. No purchase necessary. See Mobile T&C's & Privacy Policy: Not eligible in CA or NY. Terms and Conditions: https://www.dunhamssports.com/terms.html
Privacy Policy: https://www.dunhamssports.com/privacy-policy.html

Dunham's SPORTS

SAVE UP TO 50% OFF EXERCISE*

*SAVINGS REFLECTED OFF SELECT ITEMS' REGULAR PRICE.

SUNDAY & MONDAY specials

ONLY GOOD FOR OCTOBER 12 & 13, 2025

SAVE $200
$599.99
Reg. $799.99
CARBON TL TREADMILL
• 30-day iFit membership included
• 2.6 CHP motor with 5" backlit display
PRO-FORM iFIT
AFTER MONDAY $699.99

SAVE $40
$259.99
Lifesmart
Reg. $299.99
SELECT-A-WEIGHT ADJUSTABLE DUMBBELL SET
• Quick adjusting dumbbell set
• Space efficient
• Eliminates several dumbbells
AFTER MONDAY $279.99

SAVE $100
$299.99
Propel Trampolines
Reg. $399.99
15' TRAMPOLINE BUNDLE WITH HOOP AND FUN-RING ENCLOSURE
• Includes Jump-N-Jam hoop, mister kit and spring puller
15 FT
AFTER MONDAY $349.99

SAVE $150
$449.99
Compare at $599.99
MWM-990 150 LB. HOME TRAINING SYSTEM
• Multi-function home gym
MARCY
AFTER MONDAY $479.99

SAVE $100
$449.99
Reg. $549.99
SFS POWER 54" 91002 PORTABLE SYSTEM
• 54" steel-framed shatterproof backboard
54"
LIFETIME
Dunham's EXCLUSIVE
MADE IN THE USA
From US & Imported Parts
AFTER MONDAY $479.99

SAVE $130
$249.99
BLACKSTONE
Reg. $379.99
28" OMNIVORE GRIDDLE
• Hard cover with rubber grip handles
• Accessory rail system with bin
AFTER MONDAY $279.99

DELIVERY & ASSEMBLY OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR BACKBOARDS. SEE SALES ASSOCIATE FOR DETAILS.

SAVE $30
Lifesmart
$369.99
Reg. $399.99
TM2202 3-IN-1 TREADMILL
• No assembly required
• Walk, jog, run and workout treadmill
Dunham's NEW ITEM

SAVE $200
NordicTrack
$799.99
Reg. $999.99
T6.5S TREADMILL
• 30-day iFit membership included
• 2.6 CHP smart-response motor
#1 NordicTrack Recommended TREADMILL BRAND

SAVE $400
NordicTrack
$1199.99
Reg. $1599.99
T8.5S TREADMILL
• 30-day iFit membership included
• Not available in all stores but special orders available, check local store for availability
#1 NordicTrack Recommended TREADMILL BRAND

SAVE $30
PRO-FORM iFIT
$469.99
Reg. $499.99
325 CSX RECUMBENT BIKE
• 24 workout apps
• iFit Bluetooth Smart enabled

SAVE $700
PRO-FORM iFIT
$599.99
Reg. $1299.99
STUDIO BIKE PRO 22
• 30-day iFit membership included
• 24 digital resistance levels

SAVE $100
PRO-FORM iFIT
$699.99
Reg. $799.99
CARBON EL ELLIPTICAL
• 30 day iFit membership included
• 19" adjustable stride
• 18 preset workout apps and 15 lb. enhanced flywheel

SAVE $10
EVERLAST
$89.99
Reg. 99.99
80 LB. ELITE HEAVY BAG AND GLOVES COMBO
Dunham's EXCLUSIVE

SAVE $20
MARCY
$179.99
Reg. $199.99
MWB-4491 OLYMPIC BENCH
• 600 lb. weight capacity bench
• Independent, adjustable height crutches with quick release knobs

SAVE $100
WEIDER
$279.99
Reg. $379.99
300 LB. OLYMPIC WEIGHT SET

HOT BUYS!

SAVE $5
$24.99
Reg. $29.99
ACADIA 7" OUTDOOR FIREPIT
BLACK SIERRA

SAVE $15
DRYGUY
$54.99
Reg. $69.99
FORCE DRY DX BOOT AND GLOVE DRYER
• Utilizes forced air technology with rotary fan
• Dries up to 4 garments simultaneously
• Helps eliminate odor

SAVE $13
$69.99
Reg. $82.99
LITTLE BUDDY HEATER
• Compact yet powerful heater which puts out 3800 btu's of heat
Mr. Heater

SAVE $20
BLACKSTONE
$179.99
Reg. $199.99
22" ON-THE-GO TABLE TOP GRIDDLE
• Portable griddle perfect for camping, tailgating or hunting

SAVE $30
3-PIECE ZERO GRAVITY OR CAMPFIRE CONVERSATION SET
$89.99
Reg. $119.99
BLACK SIERRA

SAVE $20
$129.99
Reg. $149.99
BIG BUDDY HEATER
• Built-in oxygen shutoff sensor and tip-over switch ensures safe operation
Mr. Heater

SAVE $200
$399.99
Reg. $599.99
BLACK LABEL SERIES PELLET GRILL WITH WI-FI CONTROL
• 18 pound capacity pellet hopper for long cooks

$100 OFF
VIPER
Coleman POWERSPORTS
ALL REGULAR PRICED MINI BIKES IN STOCK
• Assortment varies by store
• Not available in IN, MO, ND, WV, WY, and VA

SAVE $500
VIPER
$1099.99
Reg. $1599.99
VK200 GO-KART
• Assortment varies by store
• Not available in all stores but special orders available, check local store for availability

BASKETBALL

SAVE $10
SPALDING
$22.99
Reg. $32.99
SUPER FLITE BASKETBALL
• Available in official, 28.5" and 27.5" sizes
• Composite leather cover offers great feel with excellent durability

BAGS

20% OFF
adidas
ALL REGULAR PRICED ADIDAS DUFFEL BAGS, BACKPACKS AND SACKPACKS IN STOCK
• Assortment varies by store

SUNGLASSES

STARTING AT $70.00
BRANDED SUNGLASSES
• Assortment varies by store
• Priced as marked
Ray-Ban COSTA UNDER ARMOUR OAKLEY

FAN GEAR STARTING AT $14.99

GREAT BUY!
$14.99
Reg. to $16.99
MEN'S, WOMEN'S OR YOUTH TEE
• Assortment varies by store
OHIO STATE MICHIGAN MICHIGAN STATE

GREAT BUY!
$34.99
MEN'S, WOMEN'S OR YOUTH FLEECE HOODIE OR CREW
• Assortment varies by store
OHIO STATE MICHIGAN MICHIGAN STATE

20% OFF
ALL REGULAR PRICED NFL TEES AND HEADWEAR IN STOCK
• Excludes Nike and Fanatics
• Assortment varies by store
NFL NEW ERA '47